

BR gets signal to electrify if more jobs are shed

By Michael Bailey and David Felton

The Government is not prepared to give an unconditional commitment to railway electrification, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, told the House of Commons yesterday.

Instead he is inviting British Rail to submit a 10-year programme of schemes for electrification of potentially profitable main line routes, where it is clear that returns could justify investment.

"The approval of each successive electrification project will be conditional on the profitability of the investment in question, and on the achievement of necessary improvement in productivity," Mr Fowler said.

Mr Fowler did not say what financial commitment the Government might make to carrying out such programmes, but said their cost would be taken into account in setting British Rail's external finance limit and investment level for the year in which a scheme is met. He did allow an extra £53m to cushion the closure of collected and delivered parcels.

BR has already said that without sharply increased investment—and extra £36m a year for electrification and £72m for associated rolling stock, signalling and track—the railways will go into rapid decline by 1983 and 3,000 miles of track will become unusable by 1990.

Mr Fowler's statement was received angrily by Mr Albert Booth, opposition spokesman on transport, who asked why the minister had ignored the job recommendations of his own department and British Rail to make a specific commitment to extensive electrification.

However, Sir Peter Parker, BR chairman, welcomed Mr Fowler's statement as a "new fighting chance for railways". He said: "I have never and never will ask for money for electrification unless we can see that the investment will produce a good return."

While the country went through hard times, Mr Fowler's statement amounted to a "concrete declaration" of faith in rail as a future industry—a 10-year view. "It is a long time since anybody has taken that long a look at our affairs," Sir Peter said.

Although last night it was clear that Sir Peter was optimistic that the minister's statement could be translated into a new programme for electrification, it was unclear whether the Government's plans had won over the rail unions.

Union leaders left a two-hour meeting with Mr Fowler and Sir Peter refusing to comment. It was left to the BR chairman to explain that there was a united purpose to get the programme moving as quickly as possible.

A brief statement after the meeting of the Rail Council, BR's top consultative body, with Mr Fowler, said that the Government's announcement had been

"positive" and that the council was determined to put the plan into action.

Sir Peter conceded that there were "combustible issues" which had to be discussed with the unions such as manning levels, more flexible work procedures, a reduction in overtime working and the introduction of new rosters.

He praised the unions' co-operation in reducing BR's manning levels by 7,500 over the last year and said: "We are all agreed that the parliamentary process needs translating into something more definite, into terms of actual priorities for electrification and a timetable."

Senior BR officials are to meet representatives from the Department of Transport today to begin work on producing such a timetable and defining the priorities in the programme.

Earlier in the Commons, Mr Stephen Ross, Liberal MP for the Isle of Wight, had described the announcement as a "disappointing statement" which would lead to more unemployment, the break-up of existing teams of electrification workers, and a higher cost which schemes were eventually carried out.

But Mr Fowler insisted that the Government was committing itself to a programme over 10 years of certain conditions to assure the future of the railway which he "passionately believed in".

The Government's decision, he said, was taken at a time when British Rail's financial position was giving serious cause for concern, with passenger business down £52m on forecast, and freight £27m.

Freight train drivers were travelling on average only 30 miles a day and there was a great scope for improved productivity before any investment.

Transport 2000, the environmental pressure group, said afterwards that Mr Fowler's statement was short-sighted and a catastrophe for British Rail.

"Piecemeal schemes for electrification will not achieve the system-wide economies of scale which come from a rolling programme," a spokesman said.

Council planners say the stations are needed to cope with population increases east of Reading, but British Rail cannot afford to build them. All the stations will be on the Southern Region's Reading to Waterloo line.

Background, page 2

Leading article, page 15

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Communists at door of French Cabinet

From Ian Murray
Paris, June 22

The French Socialist Party is poised to dominate French politics for the next five years. So complete was its victory in yesterday's legislative elections that President Mitterrand could well feel strong and confident enough to allow Communists into his next Government.

With the results of only three of the 491 constituencies still to come from the overseas territories, the Socialist Party and its close allies, the left Radicals (MRG), already have 285 seats and the Communists 44. There are also four independents of the left who will support them.

This compares with 117 seats for the Socialists and their allies and 86 for the Communists in the old Assembly.

The representation of the old governing majority has been almost halved. The neo-Gaullist RPR movement has 83 seats instead of 150, the UDR has 64 instead of 122 and even the number of right-wing independents has dropped from 12 to eight.

This majority gives the Socialists an absolute mandate to introduce a programme, with or without the help of any of their allies.

What President Mitterrand has to decide is where it will be safer to have the Communists—inside or outside his Government.

Talks about the possibility of Communist Ministers began at the Communist headquarters in Paris this afternoon. The Socialist side was led by M Lionel Jospin, the party's first secretary, and the Communists by M Georges Marchais, their secretary general.

The Communists' desire to join the Government was made plain within minutes of the first computer predictions of the evening. Their spokesmen were dispatched to every television and radio station to relay the message—and M Marchais said that the Communists were prepared to accept the principle of collective Cabinet responsibility.

In fact Communist leaders were almost tripping over one another in their anxiety to say how closely their view and that of the Socialists coincided. Even on the question of foreign affairs, where President Mitterrand had taken a particularly firm line, the Communists and the Socialists indicated there could be no compromise.

President Mitterrand is under some pressure from within his own party to agree to a coalition with the Communists, particularly from the left-wing Ceres group headed by M Jean-Pierre Chevènement.

They were unhappy that he was not prepared to call on Socialists to stand down in the elections to allow Communists to head the Government.

He is also under pressure from the more right-wing elements to keep out the Communists on the grounds that their presence would scare off investors in France and could even cause trouble with some of the more conservative Arab states with whom France needs good relations.

For his part the President has said that he will not consider Communists as being only fit to work, pay taxes and die for France. Democratically, he believes it is wrong to exclude them but the conditions for entry into Government will be tough.

Resignations from broadcasting chiefs

Heads have begun to roll in the state radio and television companies (Charles Hargrove writes from Paris).

M Maurice Ulrich, president of the Second Television Channel, a senior diplomat who was head of the private office of the Foreign Minister, and M Roland Faure, Director of Information France, and former Editor-in-Chief of L'Espresso, both handed in their resignations today.

These came as no surprise. Broadcasting chiefs have been under considerable pressure to resign since the new Socialist Government took over a month ago.

M Georges Filloud, Minister for Communication, said in an interview with Le Monde last week that he had expected the responsible heads of the state-controlled media—"men chosen by the Council of Ministers on the basis of the political loyalty expected of them"—to draw their own conclusions from the Socialist victory—and leave.

Leading article, page 15

New faces, page 8

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour Party leader, said last night that the decision of Mr Wedgwood Benn to contest the deputy leadership contest could widen the gulf between the parliamentary party and the party in the country, and lose Labour the next election.

Mr Foot, interviewed on BBC television's Panorama programme, said that the deputy leadership campaign was a distraction.

In the latest of several calls for the party to stop fighting among themselves and to concentrate on electing the Conservative executive would have to lay down ground rules covering the length and cost of future campaigns.

"It would be ludicrous for anybody who really wants to throw out this Thatcher Government—and I am sure Tony Benn does—to have an election every year in this kind of form," Mr Foot said.

Mr Foot's obvious irritation at the way the current campaign has developed mirrored the growing feeling among Labour MPs that under the new electoral college system the party may be embroiled in long divisive elections every year.

Officials were interviewed in 247 constituencies and asked whom they thought would be their local party's first choice; 120 (49 per cent) opted for Mr Benn, 37 (15 per cent) for Mr Healey, 12 (5 per cent) for Mr



Three signs of trouble: John McEnroe up to his antics during his match with Tom Gullikson at Wimbledon yesterday. McEnroe won in straight sets.

McEnroe's temper boils over again at sunny Wimbledon

John McEnroe was in trouble again on the first day of Wimbledon yesterday, writes Sydney Friskin. During his match with Tom Gullikson, which he won in straight sets, he abused the umpire and called the referee a four-letter name. He also broke a racket, acquired two penalty points, and will be recommended for a fine by the referee, Fred Hovley.

McEnroe found fault with the umpire, Edward J. James, because he declined to reverse a number of linecalls' decisions with which McEnroe disagreed. During the second

set he deliberately stood on his racket and broke it, and two games later crashed the replacement against a chair. Soon afterwards, he repudiated two women spectators for applauding Gullikson. Elsewhere, three seeded players were beaten. The biggest surprise was the defeat of Ivan Lendl, of Czechoslovakia (No 4), who lost in five sets to Charlie Fancourt, of Australia. The other fallen seeds were Victor Pecci, of Paraguay, and Yannick Noah, of France. Ilie Nastase, of Romania, lost an exciting five-set match to Alexander Meyer.

The best British success was the victory of John Lloyd, who beat Phil Dent, of Australia, in five sets. Lloyd, who is married to the former Chris Evert, said: "My wife has told me my victory means as much to her as winning Wimbledon herself."

Christopher Mottram also reached the second round, beating Robin Drysdale in four sets. The resumption of the Wimbledon drama began on a glorious afternoon with a supporting cast of more than 28,000, a record attendance for the first day. The figure on the corresponding day last year was 26,691.

Few people could recall a start as sunny as this, the temperature rising into the mid-seventies. In the search for lighter clothing many mini-dresses were recovered from the dark recesses of wardrobes and several gentlemen arrived somewhat scantily clad. In an effort to restore decorum on the centre court, during the match between Bjorn Borg and Peter Rennett, an announcement was made requesting those who had taken their shirts off to put them on again. The announcement, however, passed unheeded on the outside courts. Report, page 10



Peckham victim had yearned for Africa

By Craig Seton

Fenton Ogbogo, the young man stabbed to death by three white youths in south London was desperately unhappy living in England, and was waiting to return to his native Nigeria with his family later this year.

Last night, two days after his 25-year-old son's murder in Peckham, Mr Isiah Ogbogo, who came to Britain from Nigeria in 1964, said: "I have lost a child because of the racial trouble in this country. Why should somebody kill a quiet, innocent boy like him? I want the whole world to know about my bitterness."

Mr Ogbogo, aged 47, an electrical engineer who has five other children living in England, said: "Fenton came here four years after me but he always told me he did not like it here. He wanted us to go back to Nigeria but I told him to hold on until I sold our house and then we could go back together as a family."

He intends to have his ashes cremated and take his ashes back to his original home in Enugu State, Nigeria. Mr Ogbogo said: "I wish I could afford to take his body back. That is what I want to have."

Mr Ogbogo, who lives with his second wife and his children at Nunhead Grove in Peckham, told how he last saw Fenton, who was unemployed, on Friday but assumed he had gone to north London to stay with friends where he used to live and work.

Yesterday, after reading about the stabbing of an unidentified black man in a fish bar in the Old Kent Road on Saturday night, he went to the police and discovered that it was his eldest son.

"I still cannot believe it. I am shocked," Mr Ogbogo said. "It is these white youths with their hatred of black people. That is why my child died. We have a lot of English people living in Nigeria but we do not kill them."

He dismissed police reports that his son might have tried to commit suicide shortly before he was murdered on Saturday.

"He was a very quiet boy but he was not depressed. It is rubbish to say he tried to kill himself. Nor would he have got involved in a fight. He was just not like that."

He described how Fenton had attended local schools in Peckham and then technical college and became keenly interested in electronics. He moved to Willesden in north London to work off a company

assembling computers but lost his job last year.

"I told him to come back to live with us on the returned just before Christmas. He did not have many friends in this area and was always very quiet, just sitting by the window looking out."

"I told him to make friends and to get a girlfriend but he wanted to wait until he was back in Nigeria for that," Mr Ogbogo said.

Last night Mr Ogbogo was together with his family at their home in mourning. He has two other sons, Benson, aged 17, and Richard, aged 23, and three daughters; Ophelia, Mary Ann, aged 10, and Mary Ann, aged 8.

Detective Chief Superintendent Peter Bradbury, who is leading the hunt for the killers, said there had been several other racial attacks by white youths on black people recently, including the stabbing last Thursday of another black man who is recovering in Guy's Hospital.

Scotland Yard said last night that a youth was assisting their inquiries, but no charges are expected immediately. They also ruled out any connection with the Thursday night 500 black youths rampaged through a shopping centre, smashing windows and looting shops.

The last hours of Mr Ogbogo were gradually being pieced together by police yesterday. Scotland Yard said there was evidence that he had tried to commit suicide earlier in the evening on Saturday, having pulled back from jumping from the balcony of a block of flats.

It appeared that he befriended a group of white youths in a public house in the Old Kent Road. Later in the evening they saw him being attacked by another group of white youths who were fought off by Mr Ogbogo, who went to the 'Sehol Fish Bar' in Old Kent Road and was watching a boxing match on a television there when three white youths came in.

Mr Ogbogo was stabbed repeatedly. The youth ran off and their victim staggered along the pavement before collapsing. He died later at Guy's Hospital.

It took police nearly two days to establish Mr Ogbogo's identity. An incident room has been set up at Tower Bridge police station and detectives are conducting house-to-house inquiries.

Walker calls for end of dogmatic stand on Tory monetarist policy

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

Without sending Mr Thatcher an advance copy of his speech, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture and one of the leading "wets" in the Cabinet, yesterday argued forcefully against the Government's rigid stand on monetarism when he addressed the British-American Chamber of Commerce in New York.

"Our basic political and economic approach should be free of any doctrinaire approach," he said. "It should not be based upon the works and intellects of a few men, but should be based on the needs of the people."

After referring to the changing pattern of world trade, Mr Walker turned to the United Kingdom where he said there were likely to be "domestic tensions of considerable proportions".

The spectre of high unemployment had re-emerged at a time when many of the most cherished, inherited values were under greater pressure than

ever before: the Church, the family, moral standards, human expectations and the basic work ethic were all now subject to question and to change.

"The nature of our city and urban problem is such that high unemployment will bring with it high levels of crime and perhaps young generations developing a total hostile approach to the structure of our society."

In these circumstances, said Mr Walker, the objective of western monetarism should be the provision of some sense of stability in a period when so many forces were working for instability, and "to obtain both a sense of national unity within our own countries, and a wider unity of the Western democracies so as to preserve the freedom and the compassion for which they have been noted."

Arguing obliquely for more state intervention, Mr Walker called attention to the dilemma of industries in financial difficulty, whether due to the free-recession or to intensive (and sometimes overseas) competition from abroad. Industrial liquidation in a period of economic contraction could mean the destruction of wealth.

"The plan is to keep the people remain—the plant to rust, and

the people to be kept at the expense of those who are able to continue to produce. Suppliers collapse and customers go elsewhere."

It is for this reason, that in such economies as Japan and Germany—both advocates of free enterprise—the industrial strategy is carefully planned and the major liquidation, be it Volkswagen or a major Japanese shipbuilder, is either prevented or organized.

Quoting with approval a speech by the late General de Gaulle, in which he referred to the need to give everyone a direct share in the proceeds of the concern for which he or she works, Mr Walker said: "In the same way as we must pursue policies that do not create a divisive society between the employed and the unemployed, we must also pursue policies that achieve the maximum of unity of purpose of those engaged in commerce and industry."

At no point in his speech, in the text circulated in advance, does Mr Walker have a word of praise for Mrs Thatcher or the achievements of the Government of which he is a member.

It was reported in Whitehall that Mrs Thatcher would not. Continued on back page, col 2

Mark Chapman admits he killed John Lennon

Mr Mark Chapman changed his mind and pleaded guilty to murdering John Lennon, the former Beatle, in New York last year. He told his lawyer that God had told him to switch

from his original plea of not guilty by reason of insanity. A trial will not now be required and the judge adjourned the case for sentencing in August. Page 8

Scottish legal system in crisis

The Civil Service unions' industrial action has virtually paralysed the Scottish legal system, the Government and the unions have been told by the heads of the legal profession in Scotland. A statement, the lawyers say, the situation is intolerable in a civilized community. Page 3

Thursday may be Vott cuts day

Plans have been made for Mr John Vott, Secretary of State for Defence, to announce the results of his defence review in Parliament on Thursday, after a Cabinet meeting to endorse his proposals. Page 3

Polish assurance

Polish leadership used the 25th anniversary of the Russian attack on the Soviet Union to reaffirm Poland's allegiance to Moscow and to say they were surmounting the country's crisis. Page 8

Spanish King badly cut

King Juan Carlos of Spain, who was badly cut after falling through a glass door, has left hospital after an overnight stay. He had slipped by his swimming pool. With his left arm in a sling, the King described his accident as "nothing". Page 9

£57m lifeline for Belfast yard

Harland and Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilding and engineering group, is to receive almost £57m of Government aid in cash and guarantees. The move follows a similar provision made last year to help the troubled yard. Page 17

Poison plot trial

A Libyan in Britain was accused of trying to poison a Libyan family who refused to go back, by lacing peanuts with a poison from which two children almost died. Page 4

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Passport to Europe approved

From Michael Hertsby
Luxembourg, June 22

After nearly a decade of wrangling, EEC foreign ministers agreed here today to introduce a lilac-coloured Community passport by January 1, 1985, at the latest.

The new passport will replace existing national documents but will not diminish the control of governments over immigration, or make it any easier to travel from one EEC country to another.

Britain sought and was granted permission to introduce the passport after January 1, 1985, in the event that the revision of its nationality laws, which could affect the contents of the passport, was not completed by then.

Britain also wants to bring in the new passport at the same time as a machine-readable plastic card which will eventually be inserted into the document.

Benn could cost Labour election, says Foot

By Philip Webster, Political Staff

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour Party leader, said last night that the decision of Mr Wedgwood Benn to contest the deputy leadership contest could widen the gulf between the parliamentary party and the party in the country, and lose Labour the next election.

Mr Foot, interviewed on BBC television's Panorama programme, said that the deputy leadership campaign was a distraction.

In the latest of several calls for the party to stop fighting among themselves and to concentrate on electing the Conservative executive would have to lay down ground rules covering the length and cost of future campaigns.

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Healey at TGWU, Page 2

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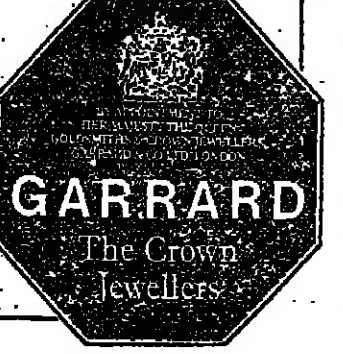
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Whitelaw ready to erase defect in IRA poll Bill

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, appeared to be moving swiftly last night to reassess Conservative and Labour MPs' appraisal of the discovery of a serious defect in the Representation of the People Bill which would allow an IRA prisoner in the Irish Republic to stand for election to Westminster.

The Bill, which was having its second reading in the Commons last night, is designed to prevent a repetition of the recent Fernand and South Tyrone by-election whereby Mr Robert Sands, the IRA hunger striker, was elected MP for the constituency.

It disqualifies convicted persons serving sentences of more than 12 months for membership of, or nomination for election to, the House of Commons while still in prison.

The Home Office apparently overlooked the fact that the Bill would not have prevented the IRA from putting up for election a convicted person in Portlouis, the high security jail in the Republic, who could well have been born in Northern Ireland and would therefore have been eligible for nomination.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on Home Affairs, pointed out that the loophole could only result in the Government being ridiculed and humiliated.

Mr Whitelaw intervened to agree that the loophole existed and added that he was prepared to give sympathetic consideration to any amendments.

Within minutes of Mr Hattersley's remarks, Conservative MPs were making the same point to the Home Secretary.

Mr Whitelaw said that the people to whom the Bill applied were not mere cranks or jokers. They were people manifestly unfit for public office who had exploited a loophole in the electoral law.

There was a widespread sense of outrage not merely at the election of a convicted

terrorist but at the fact that his nomination should have been allowed to stand. Allow-

With a free vote on the Labour side of the House, Mr Hattersley said that he had the deepest forebodings about the Bill. It was always dangerous suddenly to invent a general theory to deal with individual difficulties and he felt that the Bill would help rather than hinder the IRA.

While it was not the right of an IRA gunman to sit in the House of Commons, it was the right of the constituency to elect an MP of its choosing. The Bill considerably diminished the right of citizens to choose their parliamentary representative.

If a constituency chose an imprisoned person as its MP that was exactly what it should get: an imprisoned MP. Mr Hattersley said it was not for MPs to overrule the choice made by the constituency.

The Bill was later given a second reading by 248 votes to 137, a Government majority of 111.

Seventh Maze man joins hunger strike

A seventh hunger striker yesterday joined the Maze prison fast. (Christopher Thomas writes from Belfast.)

Michael Devine, aged 27, a father of two from the Creggan Estate, Londonderry, is a member of the Irish Republican Socialist Party.

He was arrested in September, 1976, after a raid on a collection of weapons, and sentenced to 12 years in June, 1977. He immediately went "on the blanket" by refusing to wear prison clothes.

One man is due to join the hunger strike soon. The aim is to keep the number fasting to eight by replacing each man who dies. The next death is likely in about three weeks.

Parliamentary report, page 6

SDP doubt over Liberal for Croydon

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

Leaders of the Social Democratic Party met yesterday to review the prospects for the SDP-Liberal alliance in the forthcoming elections. North-West, by-election and later issued a statement which could be taken as a criticism of the prospective Liberal candidate, already in the field.

He is Mr William Pitt, aged 43, chairman of the London Liberal Party and a housing action officer with the council who lost his deposit when he fought the seat at the last general election.

But when Mr Pitt met Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, to discuss the by-election yesterday he was assured of the party's 100 per cent backing and it seems almost certain that he will be the standard-bearer for the alliance when the by-election takes place in the autumn.

In a private conversation with Mr Steel over the weekend, Mrs Shirley Williams indicated that she would not be putting herself forward as an alternative candidate.

After the steering committee of the SDP had discussed the current relationship between the two parties, Mr William Rodgers, MP for Teesside, Stockton, and one of the SDP leaders, said: "We took it for granted that the Liberals wanted to fight with us, but they do want to fight it, we hope that they will have a good candidate who the local Social Democrats can support."

"We hope that the local SDP members and the local Liberals will act in the spirit of the agreement that was sealed last week on behalf of our two parties."

Some Liberals feel that this statement could be regarded as a snide comment on the credentials and fighting spirit of the adopted candidate. They fear that comments of this kind could lead to a rift between the two parties just at a time when they need the maximum degree of unity.

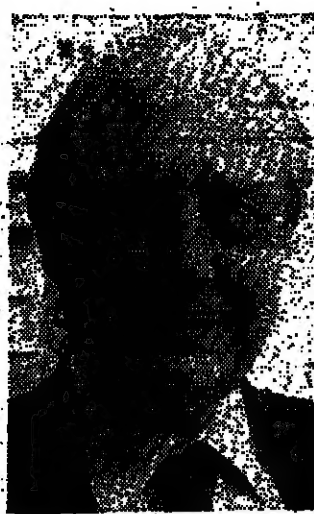
Tension has been noticed between the two parties as a result of statements made by Mr David Owen, one of the four leaders of the SDP. The Liberals recall several occasions when Mr Owen has referred to the future, leaving out of the picture the Liberal Party's share in fighting for power.

Mr Steel was not well pleased when Mrs Williams declined to fight the Warrington by-election.

At a three-day conference at Warwick University which ended yesterday, about 100 student supporters of the SDP decided to set up a steering committee in readiness for a campaign of recruiting among students in the autumn term.

The committee's chairman, Mr John Munford, general secretary of the London School of Economics student union, said: "Our aim is to recruit more than 1,000 new students to the SDP in the first weeks of the autumn term."

Mr Roy Jenkins will face another Social Democratic Party candidate in the Warrington by-election (the Press Association reports). The candidate, Mr Tony Kean, will represent the Manchester SDP, which has taken legal action against the national party for using the name its members say was their idea.



Sir John Biggs-Davison: His second letter bomb.

Letter bomb to MP intercepted

By Stewart Tisdler

Crime Reporter

A letter bomb addressed to Sir John Biggs-Davison, Conservative MP for Epping Forest, was discovered at the House of Commons sorting office yesterday. Scotland Yard said it was similar to bombs posted to the Prince of Wales, the Prime Minister and a number of MPs.

Sir John said later he was very grateful to the sorter who had spotted the bomb. He added that it was the second he had received: in 1972 one was sent to his home and a group called Saor Uladh (Free Ulster).

The devices first began to appear in January and have been sent to MPs including Mrs Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgbaston), Mr Barry Porter (Bebington and Ellesmere Port), Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary, and Mr James Kilfedder (Down, North).

Last week one addressed to Mr Geoffrey Jenner, MP for Leicester, West, was discovered at a Sussex post office.

Police believe most of the bombs are the work of a single person who could be mentally disturbed. That sent to Mr Jenner may be another's work.

All but the bomb sent to Mr Jenner were in a padded envelope and only one was not intercepted.

Unions draw up new economic policy

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Reporter

Senior trade union and Labour Party leaders yesterday reached an economic policy agreement intended to form part of a new contract which can reinforce the party's general election platform.

Although the TUC-Labour Party liaison committee took a further step towards an agreed joint statement on incomes and prices, it has actively postponed conflict by leaving detailed discussion of a wages policy for the future.

The committee meeting, attended by Mr Michael Foot, leader of the party, broadly endorsed a new document on economic issues facing the next Labour government, which affirms that an agreed policy to control inflation "will be essential to safeguard expansion".

The document commits a future Labour government to a policy aimed at restoring full employment through improved public and private investment, the use of a national investment bank, and improved public services.

Such an agreement, which is described in carefully vague terms, would take into account the share of national income absorbed by profits as well as "earnings from employment".

At the same time the document renews commitment to a Prices Commission with powers to enable "prices to be investigated, controlled or reduced".

Some senior party officials are questioning the tactics of Mr Andy Bevan, the party's national youth officer, in calling for a vote on the issue right at the end of a branch meeting called to discuss a 10 per cent pay offer.

The unionists fringe meeting, attended by about 50 of the 1,000 TGWU conference delegates, also brought a warning from Mr Healey that Labour should not take a victory at the polls for granted.

Referring to delegates' last night's decision to attempt to force a debate this week on the Labour Party deputy leadership election, with emergency motions naming Mr Benn as their preferred candidate.

Their campaign received a fillip with the disclosure yesterday that staff at the Labour Party's national headquarters had voted to back Mr Benn's candidature.

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Railway electrification

Sir Peter and the battle for profitability

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

So far as railway electrification is concerned, it is now abundantly clear what happened at last week's Cabinet meeting. Mrs Margaret Thatcher did not drop a glove for Sir Peter Parker to pick up; she threw down a gauntlet.

According to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, in his Commons statement yesterday, there will be no government commitment to a rolling programme of electrification, large or small, as recommended in the joint study of British Rail and his department earlier this year.

Instead, electrification schemes will be approved one by one as British Rail demonstrates its profitability through potential revenue and productivity gains.

But British Rail has said that without sharply increased investment—an extra £36m a year for electrification and £27m for associated rolling stock signalling and track—the railways will go into rapid decline by 1983 and 3,000 miles of track will become unusable by 1990.

Thus the stage is now set for the kind of confrontation over the future of the railways that last took place under Beeching nearly 20 years ago, with a tough-minded Conservative government representing taxpayers' interests on one side and the rail users—the environmentalists and rail unions on the other.

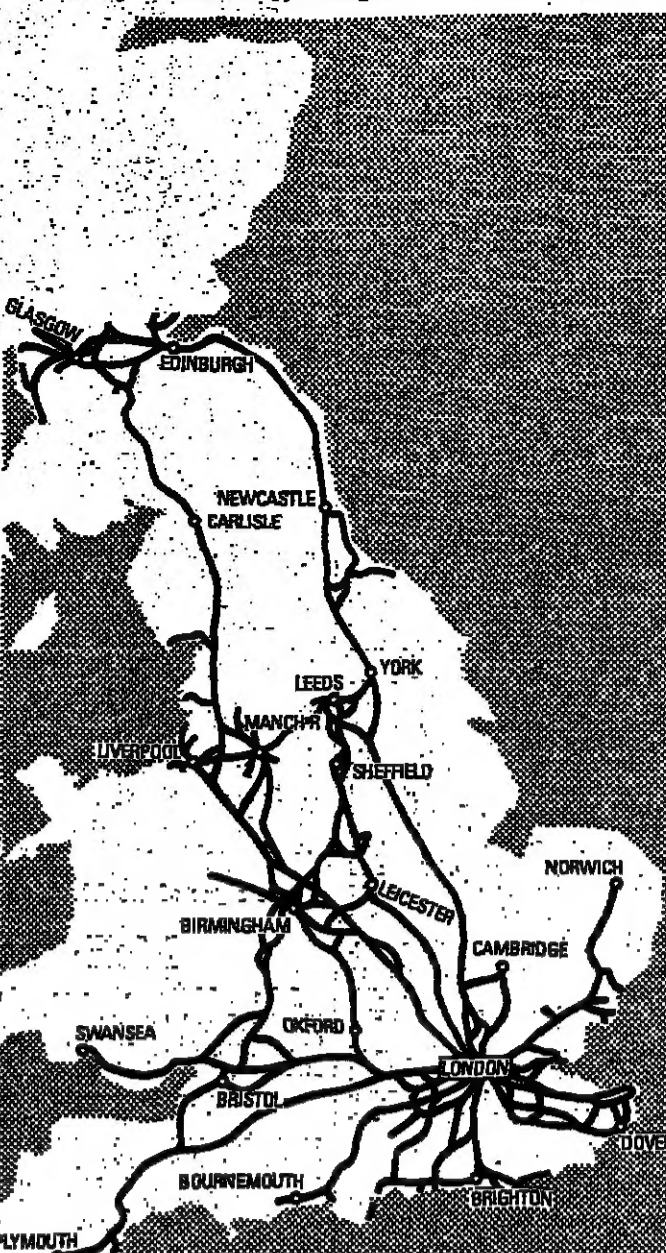
In the middle stands Sir Peter, British Rail's ebullient chairman, who could be the best man to bring about reconciliation; but who in some Government eyes has failed to deliver on productivity, and who they see as muddying the waters with a private pay claim of his own (£40,000-£50,000 a year) as the price of continuing to manage the railway after September.

The argument has changed in one important respect since Beeching, in that no one now expects to bring about a railway in a small country to pay (only freight railways in large countries, like the United States and the Soviet Union do that). So it is common ground (except perhaps like British Rail and London Transport) should receive a large subsidy from the public purse (£560m for British Rail last year), as part of their normal financing.

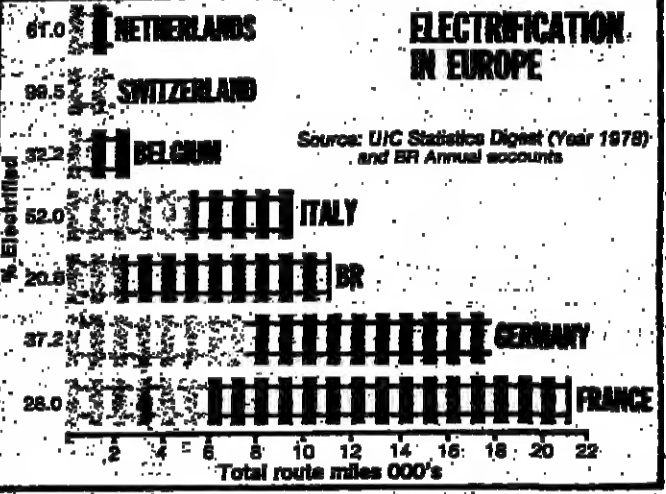
But in another sense the argument is the same. What is also common ground (except perhaps for the far left) that subsidies do not necessarily buy good value. "Obviously the desirable outcome," which Mrs Thatcher presumably, and Mr Fowler, would approve, is that the railways should continue but in a less costly and wasteful form.

In a Balance Sheet of Change put to the rail unions last November, Sir Peter stated that the railways should be taken by the Government, to get British Rail moving. These have since been quantified in crude terms at a 38,000 manpower reduction on the part of British Rail, matched by a parallel reduction in the Government's contribution of £300m to nearly £600m a year by the part of the Government.

For its part, British Rail seems to be doing quite well. More than 7,000 jobs have already gone, roughly on target, and another 10,000 go from trackside from collected and delivered parcels over the next



Electrification in the 1990s of up to 42 per cent of British Rail's network: this could be the map of the main line electric services then, assuming BR meets the successive profitability targets set out in yesterday's government policy statement. At present 23 per cent of the network is to be electrified. British Rail had sought approval for a scheme covering 52 per cent of the present network. (Non-electric services not shown on map.)



few weeks. Marshalling yards, largely superfluous in days of block trains and through Speed freight wagons, are being closed steadily, and the 5 per cent cut in train services to match falling demand is also proceeding in train, despite rumbles of discontent from commuters and content from commuters and content from commuters.

But there is still incredibly with the Associated Society of

CRITICS OF MELLISH ON ATTACK

By Sarah Segre

Mr Robert Mellish, MP for Southwark, Bermondsey, and former Labour Chief Whip, was accused yesterday of being out of touch with his constituency and of "drifting away from the party and local community".

Mr Peter Tatchell, secretary of his local Labour Party, said in a statement that the MP was out of touch with the main stream of local party opinion. It was a response to Mr Mellish's announcement last Friday that he was considering his personal position as an MP.

Mr Mellish's views on several party issues are involved, but there is also criticism of his accepting the vice-chairmanship of the Docklands Development Corporation, which the local party considers is transferring powers from the democratically elected council to people not accountable to the local community.

Mr Mellish last night reacted by saying that he was not a Bermondsey man, but a Londoner. He said he was surprised indeed. He said the comments typified the trendy left in the constituency.

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Scots courts paralysed by strikes, top lawyers say

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The heads of the legal professions in Scotland have told the Government and the Civil Service unions that their legal system is virtually paralysed and damage caused by the union industrial action "may well be irreparable".

In an unprecedented statement issued under the auspices of The Law Society of Scotland, the leading lawyers say: "The prolonged denial of justice in Glasgow, Sheriff Court, has created a situation which any civilised community must regard as intolerable."

The legal authorities in Scotland also said that many people awaiting trial have been released on bail when they would normally have been remanded in custody.

The statement to the Government and the unions was signed by Mr Charles Kemp Davidson QC, the Dean of the Faculty of Advocates (the English equivalent is chairman of the Bar Council), Professor Philip M. Love, President of the Law Society of Scotland, Mr Desmond Queen, President of the Glasgow Bar Association and the Royal Faculty of Procurators in Glasgow.

They say: "After 12 weeks of virtual paralysis the contribution of Glasgow Sheriff Court to the administration of justice in Scotland has become negligible."

Many prisoners are being held in Bannockburn jail, in Glasgow, on remand awaiting trial far longer than is usual. The Crown Office in Edinburgh, which is the equivalent of England's Director of Public Prosecutions, said last night that exceptions had been made for between 40 and 50 remand prisoners to remain in custody on remand beyond the

110 days specified under Scottish law.

Those prisoners who are not brought to trial within the specified period should be set free, but the Crown Office has argued in these cases that the delays cannot be blamed on the prosecution and extensions of their remand in custody have been granted by judges, albeit reluctantly in several cases.

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Science report

Genetic technique to make new plants

By the Staff of "Nature"

Plant breeders have discovered a potentially powerful new tool for creating new plants, a means to transfer a single, helpful characteristic from one plant to another. Gregor Mendel, the retiring monk who discovered the science of genetics, would have been astounded to know that this can now be done.

Normally, a plant with one desirable characteristic (such as high yield in one variety of corn) is crossed with another (such as one with a stout, strong stem to resist high winds, but low yield) in the hope of generating offspring with both needed characters. But the offspring will also pick up other undesired characteristics from the parents, and so only a laborious process of crossing, re-crossing and selection over many generations can create a new useful variety.

In the new method, Dr J. Jinks, Dr P. Calligaris, and Dr N. Ingram of the University of Birmingham first give the pollen of the male parent a dose of gamma radiation—much more than is normally used to induce random mutations—before crossing. In their experiments the pollen donors were green tobacco plants with plain flowers and black ovaries; the maternal parents were tobacco with mottled flowers and yellow ovaries. The plants also differed in many other characters, such as height.

The researchers were surprised to find that the offspring did not contain a mixture of their parents' characters, but were very similar to the original maternal parent, even in characters in which the paternal parent was normally dominant. Such characters as the shape of a normal cross would also take the paternal parent's form.

Even more remarkably, some of the offspring (about 1 per cent) had inherited a single character from the paternal parent. Plants were found, for example, which had black ovaries but were otherwise similar to the maternal parent.

What seems to be happening is that the chromosomes, the structures containing genetic information, in the pollen are being pulverised. Those broken chromosomes, however, are not so damaged that they cannot be transferred to the maternal parent by the growth of pollen tubes and stimulate the egg to begin development.

Normally, corresponding chromosomes from each of the parents would then pair off, because the maternal chromosomes are broken it seems that the maternal chromosomes double and pair with themselves. At some stage during this doubling bits of the paternal chromosomes are incorporated, but how this takes place is not known.

If the technique can be developed in other species, it could transform plant breeding. It amounts to a new kind of genetic engineering, cruder perhaps than the subliminal language of the molecular biologists, but it may be more practical for the breeder seeking quick improvements in his stock.

Source: Nature vol 291, p 556
Nature-Times News Service.

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WARNING TO 8 COUNCILS ON HOMES

Eight more local authorities were warned yesterday of possible government intervention if they failed to show that they were acting with reasonable speed in processing council tenants' applications to buy their homes.

They are Birmingham, Bristol, Burnley, Doncaster, Great Yarmouth, Middlesbrough, Hull and Wakefield.

On April 9 the Government issued a list of 27 local authorities which it was questioning about their records in implementing the Housing Act 1980. A week later the Government said that it would intervene to enforce sales unless it received adequate evidence of progress.

The Government today faces intervention by a Commons select committee about its own housing record.

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Nott expected to detail defence cuts on Thursday

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Plans have been made for Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, to announce the results of his defence review to Parliament on Thursday. But they will not be completed until the day itself in two of "a bit getting into the system" as one official put it yesterday.

Mr Nott was heard with "sympathetic understanding" in Washington at the weekend, when he explained his position to Mr Caspar Weinberger, his opposition number in the Reagan administration.

The mood was friendly, according to sources, and Mr Nott's account of how far he had progressed was listened to without any criticism. It is thought likely that the two men will confer again by telephone before Mr Nott makes his disclosure to the Commons.

The Defence Secretary is paying a similar call today on Dr Joseph Lums, Secretary-General of Nato, in Brussels. Tomorrow he goes on to Bonn to visit Herr Hans Apel, the West German defence minister.

If all goes according to plan, Mr Nott's proposals will be endorsed by the Cabinet on Thursday in time for an afternoon statement in the Commons. If there is any last minute hitch the denouement will come any time during the next two weeks.

Mr Nott is understood to be emphasizing on his whistle-stop

tour of the principal allies that Britain will continue to raise defence spending by an annual 3 per cent until 1986. As the Royal Navy is expected to suffer most acutely in the reshaping of the budget he is thought to have survived the toughest test through his confrontation with the Americans, Nato's main maritime power.

The Europeans by contrast will probably be relieved that Mr Nott's proposals do not inflict more damage on Britain's presence in West Germany where the British Army of the Rhine is based.

One advantage of a Thursday statement from the Government's point of view is that it will end the current wave of speculation which is held to be harmful to morale among the services.

Another is that it will give coverage in the Friday newspapers with a Commons Defence Committee report on the strategic weapons policy. Although the main report will endorse the Government decision to buy the Trident nuclear missile from the United States there will be a dissenting amendment from Opposition members of the 11-man committee.

There is an unwritten rule in Whitehall that the best way to defuse two controversial announcements is to ensure that they are made simultaneously.

Navy reductions seen as recipe for defeat

By Peter Hennessy

Britain's maritime lobby yesterday began the fight back against cuts in naval strength to which are to be announced shortly as part of the Government's defence review.

A meeting of the Greenwich Forum in the House of Lords resulted in the sending of a letter to the Prime Minister, signed by MPs, peers, sailors, industrialists and academics. It gave a warning that deep cuts in the Royal Navy's surface fleet would be an act from which only the country's enemies would benefit and a recipe for defeat in time of war.

The Greenwich Forum is a broadly-based and influential group of maritime experts. It was established in 1973 with the aim of bringing to the attention of a wider public the importance of maritime matters to British interests.

Among the signatories of the letter were Mr Keith Speed, Conservative MP for Asford, and formerly navy minister, who was dismissed by the Prime Minister last month after speaking publicly about the likely effects of a defence review on naval forces.

Others included Miss Janet Foxkes, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Drake; Lord Lloyd of Kilgeran, a member of the

RADIATION RISKS EXAMINED

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Proposed revisions to radiation exposure were discussed at a conference in London yesterday.

At the meeting, organized by the British Association for the Advancement of Science, experts from the United States and Britain examined new protection regulations, agreed by the International Radiological Protection Commission, which will form the basis of the law on radiation safety in the United Kingdom. They are contained in a document called ICRP-26.

The conclusions of the international organization are to be adopted for revised government regulations to be ready in about six months. Argument over them turns on the evidence for estimating the risks of genetic damage and of an increase in the incidence of cancer from persistent but slight exposure to low levels of radiation.

Professor A. C. Upson of the Institute of Environmental Medicine, New York, highlighted the uncertainties when he explained that an important re-evaluation was to be made in the United States of the effects on the population of Hiroshima and Nagasaki of the atomic bombing.

Sir Edward Pocin, a member of the National Radiological Protection Board, argued that the improved approach in ICRP-26 gave a framework to estimate the risks from radiation and to compare them with the risk of other industrial activities and accidents in general.

'Lost' typhoid suspect never left town

By Nicholas Timmins

A lost Chinese businessman suspected typhoid, who as thought to be flying round Europe seeking treatment, yesterday turned out to be still here he was said to have acted out in Lagos, Nigeria. The condition was improving. The false alarm nevertheless led to a call for tighter controls over international regulations governing the movement of air-travelers with fever or contagious diseases.

Dr Anthony Hall, a consultant at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in London, who was initially asked to take the businessman, Mr Robert Chew, a patient, said the Department of Health and Social Security should set up a foreign

patients unit to help to enforce the existing regulations, and to prevent doctors signing fraudulent notes to get patients with contagious diseases transported to England.

"We have had cases in the past where a doctor gives the patient two letters, one to show the airline, the other for a doctor at this end, to say the patient has suspected typhoid. The doctor is writing a fraudulent note to help the patient to come over."

A central health service unit could put pressure on medical authorities to discipline doctors who adopt such a course, because international regulations prohibit the transport of



Photograph by Jonathan Player

Splashing into summer

No summertime blues for this youngster taking the waters at Hyde Park Lido, London, yesterday, and staying cool into the bargain. The young pupil from the International English School in Holland Square had the right idea as temperatures soared. With high pressure remaining in the South, the prospect of the warm weather continuing looks good. However, weak troughs of low pressure are crossing northern Britain.

Weather forecast, back page

Third airport inquiry to be widened

By Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent

The scope of the inquiry into the third London airport is almost certain to be widened from considering the development of Stansted, Essex, to take in both Heathrow and Gatwick, a site on the Essex coast.

That follows planning applications by Uttlesford District Council, in whose area Stansted lies, for the development of Heathrow and by the Town and Country Planning Association for the development of Gatwick.

Both applications are expected to be called in by the Department of the Environment for public inquiry, and it is also expected that those inquiries will be consolidated with the Stansted inquiry due to begin on September 15. As a result, the inquiry could last a year.

Mr J. F. Vernon, chief executive of Uttlesford council, said yesterday: "It seems sensible that the development of temporary airport should be fully debated in the Stansted inquiry, rather than waiting two or three years for a further hearing."

British Airways, the main user of Heathrow, is to press strongly for the development of a fifth terminal on a 270-acre site occupied by a sewage works on the western perimeter of Heathrow airport.

Mr Roy Watts, chief executive of British Airways, said that there was no need for another large London airport this century because of lower

growth rates of air transport. The full development of existing airports could be sufficient.

Operating from yet another London airport would raise the airline's costs. Calculations showed that if British Airways had to move a substantial part of its operations to a prematurely developed Stansted, its annual costs would be £150m to £200m more than if it was concentrated at Heathrow and Gatwick.

The application by the British Airports Authority to develop Stansted to take 15m passengers a year was strongly attacked in a letter to *The Times* yesterday by Sir Colin Buchanan, the architect.

Urging the airports authority to withdraw its application, he wrote: "Never before has a project aroused such massive and varied opposition as at Stansted today. The conclusion is inescapable—the British Airports Authority will not win."

The authority yesterday discounted any suggestion that it might withdraw. It commented: "The Government's invitation to us to plan the development of Stansted followed nearly five years of consultation, not only with the air transport industry but with a wide range of other interests."

"It is no solution to suggest that the whole issue is referred back yet again. The delay would only endanger the success of an industry which is important to Britain."

Release of Lord Kagan from prison delayed

Lord Kagan was not released from prison yesterday, as expected.

He has been serving a 10-month sentence in Rudgegate Open Prison, near Wetherby, North Yorkshire, and was expected to walk out a free man yesterday after serving six months of his sentence.

When several prisoners left at 7.15 am, he was not among them. A prison officer told journalists that all prisoners due for release had left.

No reason was given, and the prison governor, Mr Nigel Berry, was said to be "too busy" to discuss the subject.

A close friend, who has kept contact since Lord Kagan was jailed on theft and false accounting charges last December, said: "You know Joe, he may well have done a deal with the governor to avoid the press."

Lord Kagan has spent some time in prison helping his lawyers to sort out legal wrangles over unsettled debts.

Warning to drivers over invalid summonses

Drivers hoping to clear themselves of motoring convictions on the strength of a recent test case over invalid summonses were warned by two High Court judges yesterday not to "jump on the bandwagon".

Although two motorists won appeals after a ruling that the issue of a summons cannot be delegated to magistrates, court staff and can only be done by magistrates or their clerk, Lord Justice Griffiths said the decision should not be regarded as a spur to others.

He said: "We do not wish this decision to give any encouragement to others to think that at a late stage they can climb on this particular bandwagon."

The High Court was sure that the issue of summonses was no longer a delegated matter, judge, sitting with Mr Justice Woolf.

The judges, in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, were giving guidance to magistrates and clerks on how to deal with various difficulties arising from the "no delegation" ruling earlier this year.

As a result of the ruling thousands of prosecutions had failed because they were based on summonses which had been "rubber stamped" by office clerks.

Three appeals were dismissed after the judges ruled that, although the summonses might originally have been defective, the information relating to each case had been "laid before" the magistrates within the six months' time limit when the proceedings were called on and then adjourned. That cured any defects.

The two drivers who successfully challenged their convictions were Mr Derek Ives, of Mersey Road, Gateshead, and Mr Carl Philip Moody.

The three drivers, who unsuccessfully challenged prosecution were Leonard Hill, of Grosvenor Street, Stalybridge, Manchester; Stephen Hughes, of Edward Avenue, Chingford, Essex; and Ghan Singh Dhesi, of Lennox Avenue, Gravesend, Kent.



Lost dancer hid in loft

Michelle Jarrett, aged 19, the missing ballerina, who resappeared yesterday after hiding for almost a week in the loft of her home in the Great West Road, Hounslow. She resappeared only an hour and a half after her worried father arrived from Australia to look for her. The girl, a Rambert Academy student, who had a Queen's scholarship, disappeared last Wednesday on the eve of a first night performance.

Mr Clive Jarrett, who was near tears when police told him they had found her in the attic, said: "My daughter has returned from her walkabout. I arrived here this morning and lay on Michelle's bed trying to work out where she could be. Then I had this feeling she was here in the house. I left for the police station and must have passed the police on their way to the house. I got a call there to say Michelle had been found in the loft. It was a fearful reunion. I just told her get cleaned up, and we're taking the first flight home."

A family friend, Mr Christopher Mencer, who has been driving the distraught father through west London in search of his daughter said her classmates knew nothing of her hiding place.

HARD WORK COMES FIRST

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FIRST ENGLISH ENTERPRISE ZONE FOR INDUSTRY

Corby is now an Enterprise Zone. And that's official. Because the Government announced today that Corby has been selected to be the first officially designated area in England to offer a package of benefits and incentives never before enjoyed by industrialists.

So why Corby first, ahead of other areas? It probably had a lot to do with Corby's reputation for hard work. Corby boasts an exceptionally strong community spirit, a major driving force behind all Corby's efforts. But not only is the community committed to Corby's future, it's also made up of a skilled industrial workforce.

The community has had a voice, too. Corby moved speedily and efficiently in discussions with the Government. And an extensive promotional campaign has been informing Government and industrialists alike just how strong the community spirit is.

Like the campaign stated, the people of Corby have never been afraid of hard work. And now, as an Enterprise Zone, it looks like their efforts are about to be rewarded.

- Enterprise Zone status means:
- * Rates (local tax) free for 10 years
 - * 100% of building costs available for initial depreciation allowance
 - * No industrial training board levies
 - * Exemption from Development Land Tax
 - * Simplified planning procedures
 - * Eased customs warehousing facilities

In addition Corby offers the grants and incentives of a Development Area and the obvious attractions of being located in the prosperous S.E. with a market of 30 million people within a 100 mile radius.

For further information, contact Fred McLoughlin, Director of Industry, Douglas House, Queens Sq., Corby, Northants. Tel: Corby 62571. Telex: 341544.

CORBY WORKS

Shared-out peanuts foiled poison plot, QC says

From Our Correspondent, Winchester

A poisoned peanut plot was hatched to eliminate a young Libyan family who defied the orders of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to return to their country, a jury was told at Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

A package of dry roasted peanuts, laced with a deadly rat poison was given to Farah Ghesouda, his English-born wife, Heather, aged 34, and their two children, by a fanatical Libyan nationalist, Hosni Farhat, the prosecution alleged.

But only the couple's two children, Karim, aged eight and his sister, Souad, aged seven, and the family's pet Pekingese dog, ate the nuts.

The children shared the nuts, saying "one for you, one for me", and it was that childlike sense of fair play that saved their lives, Mr Ian Kennedy QC for the prosecution, told the court.

"When they scattered the peanuts on to the bedside table, a lot of the poison fell into the cloth of the most if it was wasted," he said.

Four days later the children became ill and were rushed to the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, in west central London. They recovered, although not before experiencing some horrible side-effects, Mr Kennedy went on. Their hair fell out and their central nervous system was affected.

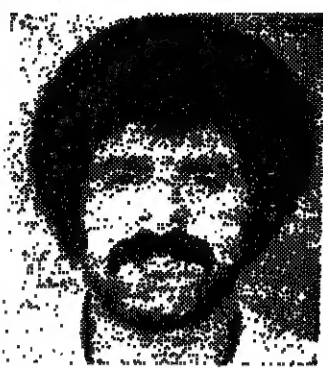
"The poison destroys the nerves which control breathing and heart action so eventually the body comes to a stop," the children were in very grave danger, but have now made a complete recovery. The

family's pet dog, however, died after eating a fatal dose. Farhat, aged 33, an airline worker, has denied six charges: four of trying to murder the Ghesouda family last November at their home, a council flat in Portsmouth. He is also accused of maliciously administering poison to the two children to endanger their lives.

Mr Kennedy said the defendant met Mr Ghesouda when they were both in the Libyan Navy being trained by the Royal Navy in Portsmouth.

Mr Farhat was described by Mr Kennedy as a "loyal Libyan and enthusiastic supporter of his country's government" and was angry when Mr Ghesouda refused to return home.

"Those who did not obey their order were warned that they were putting themselves in great danger and must face the consequences," the prosecution said. "The prosecution says Farhat tried to bring home those consequences to the family," Mr Kennedy said.



Hosni Farhat: "Loyal Gaddafi supporter."

The deadline to return home was last June, but the Ghesoudas made it plain that they would stay in Britain. After failing to persuade them to change their minds, Mr Farhat hatched his poisoned peanut plot.

Mr Farhat, who was living in Castle Road, Portsmouth, bought the peanuts at a bingo hall in Southsea, Mr Kennedy said. Later that night he went to the Ghesouda's flat and, although frightened of him, they invited him to stay for a curry meal.

After Mrs Ghesouda had made coffee, Mr Farhat put the peanuts on the table. When he left in the early hours he left the unopened packet, behind, the jury heard. Next morning the two young Ghesouda children, with their father's permission, shared out the peanuts.

That evening the Ghesoudas, married about Mr Farhat's last night visit, called in the police. They remembered the peanuts and the packet was sent for analysis.

Tests showed the poison in the peanut bag. The children, who were showing symptoms of poisoning were taken to hospital and Mr Farhat was arrested.

Police found a supply of the rat poison "more than enough to kill a dozen people" - hidden behind a bathroom panel in his house. Traces of the powder were also found under Mr Farhat's fingernails and his fingerprints were on paper used to funnel the poison into the packet, Mr Kennedy said.

The poison was not named in the court on the direction of the judge, Mr Justice Bristow. The hearing continues today.

Opera grant refusal for GLC debate

By Kenneth Gosling Arts Reporter

The Greater London Council is to debate on July 7 the new Labour administration's plan to halt the remaining £550,000 instalment of its previously agreed film grant towards the development of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

The council's Arts and Recreation Committee learnt yesterday that the Royal Opera House had received "firm legal advice" on the matter.

The opera house said it would view with deep repugnance any prospect of being involved in litigation with the GLC, with whom it had enjoyed a solid relationship.

The committee was told that the gift was not a contractual obligation.

Homeless woman gave son day out before killing him

A mother suffering from overwhelming depression tried to make sure her son, aged five, enjoyed his last day alive by taking him on a trip to London, and then she killed him while he was asleep, a court was told yesterday. Mrs Justice Taylor at the Central Criminal Court ordered Anne Pieraccini, aged 37 of Garrison Lane, Ipswich, to be detained in hospital. She had denied murdering her son Simon Duffield, but pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility.

Mr Michael Coombe, for the prosecution, said Mrs Pieraccini killed the boy because she felt they had no future, nowhere to go and no home. Afterwards she planned to kill herself. "It is an exceptionally sad case," he said.

Mrs Pieraccini's marriage to the boy's father ended in

divorce. She then married Mr Pieraccini, but from a very early stage the marriage was a total failure.

Mrs Pieraccini was turned out of the house with the boy and in February she took him to London. They visited Buckingham Palace and the Queen's Gallery.

As the child lay asleep that night she tried to kill him with a heavy ashtray, but he woke up. She comforted him, telling him he had had a nightmare and then, as he slept again, she stabbed him through the heart.

Mrs Pieraccini then tried to cut herself and took pills, but they did not work.

Mr Justice Taylor said: "It is quite clear that you loved your son and you killed him not from any malice but because you were suffering from overwhelming depression. It is not a case where the court should add to your punishment."

Boyson is accused of half-truths

By Diana Geddes Education Correspondent

The leader of the university teachers' union yesterday accused Mr Rhodes Boyson, the minister responsible for higher education, of putting out "half-truths and misinformation" and of hoodwinking the public about the state of universities.

Mr Lawrence Sapper, general secretary of the Association of University Teachers, said: "I'm fed up with these glib statements that Dr Boyson is pumping around on radio, television and in Parliament. It is frustrating to think that government policies on the universities may be based on these half-truths and misinformation. The public, press and MPs are being hoodwinked."

Mr Boyson had said the universities had to be "recast" to take account of the dramatic decline in the 18-year-old population over the next few years, Mr Sapper told a press conference in London.

In fact, the figures showed that throughout the 1980s, the 18-year-old population would be higher than throughout the 1970s.

Mr Boyson had claimed that the staff/student ratios in British universities were about twice as favourable as those in Harvard and Yale in previous years, while in fact the ratios in Britain and the United States, the British staff/student ratio was 1:10, compared with 1:5 at Yale and 1:12 at Harvard.

Mr Boyson defended his statements last night. On student intake, he said that the number of 18-year-olds was due to peak next year then fall by nearly a third.

On staff/student ratios, the figures he quoted for Yale and Harvard came from Lord Vaizey. "One of the two most eminent educational economists in the country"

Whitehall brief

Cycling to dizzy heights in the Civil Service

By Peter Hennessy



Sir Kenneth Stowe: A thousand secrets.

There are more promising ways of starting a Civil Service career than taking you, via the Cabinet Office and the Prime Minister's Office, to two particularly demanding permanent secretarieships, than by bicycling round Romford on behalf of the old National Assistance Board (NAB) visiting those in need of money and blankets.

But Sir Kenneth Stowe, Permanent Secretary to the Northern Ireland Office, who goes home to the Department of Health and Social Security next month after an absence of eight years, cherishes in memory of his six months in the NAB office in 1951. The experience will be of inestimable value in his new job, involving, as it does, supervising the disbursement annually of £27,000 on social security, and £11,000 on health, and £11,000 on local offices and a staff of 38,000.

In machinery of government terms, Sir Kenneth likened the NAB to "the sum of the engine" it contained the necessary lubricant but it not all the debris. He stayed there until the Social Security Act, 1966, which he helped frame, united the NAB and the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, and the Ministry of Social Security which was itself merged with health two years later.

He had his first taste of Whitehall's commanding heights in 1973 at the relatively late

age of 46 when he became the Cabinet Office under secretary who prepared the briefs and took the minutes at the Cabinet's Legislation Committee.

The god who controls Whitehall promotions must have had a soft spot for Romford, the NAB or Sir Kenneth himself because, by a set of curious chances, instead of returning to the engine room of the welfare state, he was catapulted in 1975 into one of the half dozen most influential and demanding jobs in the Civil Service, that of Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister.

Sir Harold Wilson, it seems, did not care for Treasury-dominated lists of candidates he was offered as potential successors to Mr (now Sir) Robert Armstrong. He asked Sir John (now Lord) Hunt, the Secretary of the Cabinet (whom Sir Robert was to succeed) if the Cabinet Office had anyone suitable. Sir Kenneth's name was put forward.

At two hours notice Sir Kenneth found himself trying to talk Sir Harold out of appointing him on the grounds that he had spent his life on the periphery and had never been a private secretary before. Sir Harold found the idea even more appealing.

Sir Kenneth, who went on to serve Mr James Callaghan and Mrs Margaret Thatcher, is a man of a thousand secrets but a cloud of impenetrable discretion descended in his London office last week at the merest hint that he talk about the three very different Prime Ministers whose confidences he shared.

To abuse the trust of those as he put it whom he had lived alongside would be anathema to him.

Sir Kenneth's secret according to Downing Street watchers, was to be totally loyal to each one. Without a trace of the grandeur (he grew up in a London County Council overspill estate in Dagenham and "you cannot get more non U" than that) the manipulator or the entrepreneur of particular policy lines, his competence

and straightforward ordinariness gave him a substantial influence at the heart of government over a four-year period of difficult times for the occupants of No 10.

The art of a Prime Minister's Principal Private Secretary in the rough times, he said, "and it is an art, not a science" is clear thinking, a sense of urgency, an acute awareness of where the rough or sensitive point is going to arise. Coupled with that is a knowledge of how to get the best out of the resources of Whitehall.

Sir Kenneth spoke warmly of last week of life in the Northern Ireland Office: "Every one will go a second mile. There is a commitment to keep on trying. The words 'give up' are not part of the vocabulary here."

Retirement set in again when he was asked to comment on the suggestion that the essence of his task at the Department of Health and Social Security will be damage limitation—the preservation of those big bladders from the Treasury's blade.

The suspicion remained, however, that a fairly radical heart beats beneath that discreet exterior: "Civil servants," he said, "fall into two categories. Those who say 'Why should we?' and those who say 'Why don't we?'"

"I'm a 'Why don't we?' man. It gets you into trouble; but it makes life more interesting."

IN BRIEF

Fire on Sealink's new ferry

Fire in the engine room of Sealink's new ferry, the Earl Granville, forced her to return to Portsmouth yesterday. The 400 passengers, bound for Guernsey, were ordered to the stern while the 60 crew fought the fire. The Earl Granville went into service months ago. Last night's sailing was cancelled.

Penny post pioneer

A copy of *The Times* was inside a container sealed yesterday into the base of the statue of Sir Rowland Hill, pioneer of the penny post, in his home town, Kidderminster, Staffordshire. The statue was paid for in 1881 with penny stamps sent from all over the world.

£3m cathedral fund

The cathedral authorities at Chichester, Sussex, said yesterday that the fund target for restoration of the 900-year-old building over the next 20 years had risen from £2m to £3m, allowing for inflation. "A vast amount of eroded stonework needs replacement," it was stated.

Jet turns back

A jet taking 170 people on holiday to Corfu had to return to Luton yesterday when Mrs Linda Norton, of Chichester, St Albans, who is pregnant, began her contractions. Last night Luton and Dunstable hospital said she was comfortable.

Label appeal fails

An appeal by *The Sunday Express* against an award of £50,000 label damages to Mr Jack Hayward, the Bahamas-based millionaire and former Liberal Party benefactor, was dismissed in the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Law Report, page 22

'Crossroads' star to go

Noel Gordon, who plays Meg Mortimer in the ATV series *Crossroads*, will not have her contract renewed at the end of the year because of new plans for the series, ATV said yesterday.

Marathon music

English National Opera is to present a 50-hour weekend marathon of music from September 25 to 27 to try to raise £100,000 towards its jubilee appeal. Events will include a midnight matinee, a children's concert and a contest for young singers.

Priest resigns

Father James Wixted, parish priest at Wantage, Oxfordshire, who aroused anger by holding a requiem mass for Robert Sandes, the dead IRA hunger striker, has resigned.

Sir Geraint ill

Sir Geraint Evans, the opera singer, has been forced to withdraw from next month's Mozart festival at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, because of illness.

Girl found dead

Tracey Suzanne Burton, aged 14, who was found dead on the banks of the river Severn at Tetford, Shropshire, yesterday had been sexually assaulted, police said.

School religion still vital, Hume says

By Frances Gibb

The teaching of Christianity and worship at morning assembly still have a vital place in the school timetable, the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, told a Commons select committee yesterday.

Society faced enormous problems, he said. There was "a malaise, a void, an absence of vision" while in previous generations was filled by Christianity, and nothing had replaced it.

The agonising questions of the nuclear issue, the disparity in wealth, race relations and unemployment came back to

the fundamental question of morality, and the question "What is man?"

Our young must be given some understanding of the meaning and purpose of our individual lives. Religion could not be taught "à la carte". It was not the right way to expose children to different religions, to sample, and let them choose one if they wished.

It was wrong to leave the young to discover the meaning of life for themselves. That also applied in the teaching of those who were not Christian.

It was very important for people to understand the society in which they lived, and they could not understand society and its history and culture without learning about Christianity.

Cardinal Hume was giving evidence for the Catholic Education Council to the House of Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts under Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham West, which is investigating the secondary school curriculum and examinations.

He said that in every person was a yearning for a spiritual life and that was a spark which could be kindled and developed.

Hats off to the Humber's new bridge

The maintenance staff of the Humber Bridge, the world's longest single-span suspension bridge, celebrating its final opening traffic tomorrow. Five years late, more than five times over its original budget, the subject of legal battles, industrial trouble, unlucky accidents and tremendous abuse, the bridge, is seen by its critics as a white elephant that will have cost £125m with interest charges, and by its supporters as the salvation of Humberside. It opens almost exactly a

century after the first serious proposal to put a bridge over the Humber. The bridge, which is 1,480m long, will have the highest tolls in Britain: 50p for a motorcycle, £1 for a car and £7.50 for a large juggernaut. Only two of its four lanes will open tomorrow as painting and finishing touches are still needed. Cyclists and pedestrians prepared to make the mile long trek from the cynics say, nowhere to nowhere, will cross the bridge free bower.

EXPULSION JUDGMENT RESERVED

The Home Office is deporting a woman who was the victim of deceit, double-crossing and bigamy, an immigration appeal tribunal heard.

Mr Stephen Cohen, representing Mrs Nasira Begum, aged 30, the deserted wife, said she was to be deported when her bigamist husband was getting away "scot free".

He was summing up in the hearing in which the Home Office contests an earlier decision by an immigration appeal adjudicator that Mrs Begum be allowed to stay in Britain.

The Home Office says she has no claim as a married woman because her husband was already married when he married her. Judgment was reserved.

Nationality Bill worries Dr Runcie

By Hugh Noyes Parliamentary Correspondent

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, told the House of Lords yesterday that the British Nationality Bill was seriously defective in its consideration of immigration.

In creating three new categories of citizen, the Bill was causing real anxieties, and even fear, among those people derived from the African, Asian and West Indian countries of the Commonwealth.

Dr Runcie said that was the view of the churches and although the clergy might be ill-advised to comment on current economic and political life, they were deployed in every locality of the country and among those in the inner cities most troubled by this Bill.

The Bill had to do justice to the existing fabric of social life and should not inject uncertainty where none had existed. The Bill was so complex that it was difficult for most people to understand. That was no good in a matter which changed something so basic.

While recognising that there were evil forces from the left and right ready to play on people's fears and to stir up racial tensions, Dr Runcie urged that the Government should not present them with any material to do so.

The Archbishop said that the Bill did not spell out the securities of citizenship within a multiracial society.

Race body morale harmed by changes, MPs told

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The morale of staff at the Commission for Racial Equality was suffering because of the changes in which five commissioners were replaced last year, Mr Harold Mangar, one of the Commission's senior officers, said yesterday.

He told the House of Commons Home Affairs Select Committee that the most radical commissioners had been removed to prevent criticism of government policy.

Those not reappointed included two deputy chairmen, Mr Pranlal Sheth, a director of a multinational assurance company and a barrister, and Mr Bashir Maan, a respected Labour councillor in Glasgow.

Another not reappointed was Mr Courtney Laws, a prominent community worker in Brixton, south London, who is known for his belief that the Commission should pay heed to grass-roots criticism.

Last week Mr Laws told Lord Scarman's inquiry that

Police radio messages recalled at riot inquiry

By Lucy Hodges

The Labour leader of Lambeth Council complained yesterday that he was given so little information by the police about the Brixton riot that he was forced to listen to communications on the police radio.

Giving evidence on the sixth day of the Scarman inquiry into the causes of the riot, Mr Ted Knight said the police would not allow him through the cordon into Raiton Road, the centre of the April disturbances.

When he telephoned Commander Brian Fairbairn, who was in charge of police operations, later on the night of Saturday, April 11, he refused to meet him Mr Knight said.

"As elected representative and in charge of the situation in Lambeth, we were getting no information that would enable us to see whether our services were useful or what developments were needed," he told the inquiry.

In desperation he turned on the radio in the early hours of Sunday morning and took notes of what he heard, which he produced yesterday for the inquiry. The reason he did this was that Lord Scarman had referred to police messages in his report on the Red Lion Square disturbances.

The picture that emerged from the radio communications was chaotic, Mr Knight said. A superintendent in charge of training policemen said over the air that most of the officers he was bringing to relieve the others had "two weeks, repeat, two weeks" service.

Mr Knight did not think that was a sensible thing to do in a highly sensitive area in an emergency. He also heard messages about police having been on duty for 10 hours at a stretch with no refreshment.

"What worries me about this is that not only do we have men with two weeks in the police force, but that others are starving on the streets of Lambeth," he said. That could lead to irrational behaviour.

He also heard a message from Lima 50 to Oscar calling for cars to be cleared so that the fire brigade could get through. Oscar replied that he saw no point in clearing cars because there would only be more casualties. Mr Knight said he had raised this because the rioters had been blamed for preventing the firemen from getting through.

Questioned by Mr Robin Auld, leading counsel for the inquiry, he agreed that Commander Fairbairn had written to him soon after taking over in Brixton in October, 1980, to try to set up regular contact between senior police officers and councillors.

Mr Knight wrote back to the commander to complain about the forced entry by five plain clothes officers to a youth project, run by the Council for Community Relations in Lambeth.

Mr Knight was sharply questioned by a number of barristers at the inquiry. He denied a suggestion by Mr John Hazan, on behalf of the Metropolitan Police, that he wanted to smash the police.

He said he simply wanted to smash the system whereby the police were accountable to the Home Secretary and not to local representatives.

Earlier he described how at the height of the riot he stood in Brixton Road and watched crowds walking in and out of smashed shops. There were no police around, although on about five occasions he saw plain vans dash in, men emerge, with truncheons and disappear into the crowds for a few minutes.

Police constable John Brown, the home beat officer who patrols in Raiton Road, told the inquiry he could not understand what was going on. "I think the presence of such officers would have been very useful," he said.

March protesters fined

Christopher Davies, aged 29, warehouseman, of Old Ford Road, Bethnal Green, east London, was fined £20, with £20 costs yesterday for wilfully obstructing the highway at Kilburn High Road, Kilburn, north-west London on April 26. He was a demonstrator on a banned march in support of the Maze hunger strikers.

A further charge of obstructing Police Constable John Dziel was withdrawn after Davies pleaded guilty to the first charge.

Andrew James Hennen, aged 29, student, of Gosington Road, Canterbury, refused to move when police tried to prevent the march going ahead, was fined £50, with £25 costs.

£1000

Is the total in cash prizes to be won in the FREE Proverbial Competition printed in this month's bumper issue of THE PUZZLER monthly, the crossword and puzzle magazine for all the family. Below is an example of the sort of entertaining puzzles that appear in THE PUZZLER.

KEYWORD

Every different number printed in the grid represents a different letter (the same number always representing the same letter, of course). For example, if number 11 turns out to be a D, you write in D whenever a square contains 11. Four squares have been filled in to give you a start.

If your solution to the puzzle is correct you will find that by filling the letters corresponding to the numbers into the two separate rows of boxes at the bottom, you will spell a proverb.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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Police rad
messages
recalled a
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MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO BUY NEW VOLVOS HAVE OWNED ONE IN THE PAST.

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Mugabe rules out joining sanctions on South Africans

Salisbury, June 22.—Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, said today that his country could not take part in any international trade sanctions against South Africa. Zimbabwe's economic dependence on its neighbour was such that it would be senseless to pretend it could join an embargo, Mr Mugabe said in an interview with Reuters on the eve of his departure for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Nairobi.

There are expected to be talks at the meeting for sanctions aimed at forcing South Africa to yield on its terms to the independence of Namibia (South-West Africa) and to modify its domestic policies of racial segregation. Mr Mugabe, a prominent leader of the so-called front-line African states opposed to South African policies, said Zimbabwe sought only peace and cooperation with the republic. But South Africa, he said, was itching for war.

Mr Mugabe also said he believed that South Africa had drawn comfort from the election of President Reagan, whose Administration has been accused by black Africa of tilting in favour of Pretoria. But he felt that ultimately the United States would not sacrifice its commitments to civil liberties and democracy in order to support apartheid.

At the OAU summit, Mr Mugabe said, Zimbabwe would seek firm stands on apartheid and on Namibia which South Africa rules in defiance of much world opinion. The organisation had to give maximum support to liberation forces in South Africa and also work out political and economic measures "of a nature that can bring sense to South Africa", he said.

"Any such pressures would be acceptable to Zimbabwe. We have said Zimbabwe itself is not in a position to participate in any sanctions that the international community proposes, but we will not stand in the way of their imposition even if they hurt us."

More than 90 per cent of Zimbabwe's trade passes through South Africa. Mr Mugabe also said: "Supposing the international community appealed to us to stop trading with South Africa—we can't stop using rail routes with South Africa. We can't, you see. This is the reality. We send our goods to South Africa and South Africa sends some of its goods to us. That is the type of sanctions we cannot participate in."

He said that although Zimbabwe was trying to lessen its reliance on the republic, independence had not yet been achieved.

Throughout the interview, Mr Mugabe, sipping tea and nibbling at small cakes, spoke quietly and without emotion. Only once did he become slightly impassioned, when he said: "We are pledged to peace in this region and we seek no war with anybody. We want to pursue policies of peaceful co-existence with our neighbours."

"But South Africa is not searching for peace, it's actually itching for war. South Africa has got to make it possible for us to achieve that peace. It's not a one-sided affair."—Reuters.

Black student leaders captured in Soweto

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, June 22

A black official of the South African Council of Churches has joined the list of people held by security police in a wave of arrests and detentions.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, Secretary-General of the council, said here today that the Rev Sol Jacob, the council's director of mission and evangelism, had been detained in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, after police raided his home at 5 a.m.

Security police have confirmed the capture of several exiled black student leaders, including a former president of the banned Soweto Student Representative Council.

The captured students are said to be members of the South African Youth Revolutionary Council, which was formed by exiled student leaders to continue "resistance" work.

According to police sources, the revolutionary group members were captured when they tried to "infiltrate" Soweto, the black township outside Johannesburg.

It is claimed they had been trained in revolutionary activity in Nigeria after fleeing from South Africa.

Mr Walter Sisulu, the immediate past President of the media union, who is also a black journalist, and a former news editor of the banned Sunday Post, was also detained under security laws at the weekend.

The captured student leaders regard their group as a third revolutionary force, unaffected by the internal quarrels which have split the older generations of black nationalists.

There can be little doubt that the South African security police have brought off a considerable coup in seizing the leadership of the revolutionary council, in what appears to have been its first serious foray into Soweto to influence a generation of young students who have virtually forgotten or who are not accurately aware of the 1976 riots.

Hongkong says it with flowers

From Richard Hughes, Hongkong, June 22

Hongkong is supposed to have derived its name from the Chinese terms for "fragrant harbour" and it is now giving its new public housing estates and apartment blocks similar poetic Chinese names.

Five new estates have names meaning abundance of health, abundance of luck, heaven, benefit to the east and colourful garden.

Designers of the Colourful garden estate, Choi Yuen, have set precedent by adapting variations on the "colourful" (choi) theme in their seven blocks, which have been named: colourful jade, screen, ke, pearl, flower, cloud and colourful and majestic.

Another estate has chosen its seven blocks China's proudest aspirations, meaning piety, beauty, achievement, peace, health, tranquility, and usefulness.

This Hongkong campaign is said to influence the naming of new settlement areas and its building blocks in the Philippines, South Korea and Malaysia.

41 DIE IN IRAN ROAD CRASH

Tehran, June 22.—A collision between three buses and a lorry at Kerman, in south-east Iran, killed 41 people and injured 24, Tehran Radio reported.

The negligence of one of the drivers was blamed for the accident. The official PARS news agency said three people in the lorry were among the dead—Agence France Presse.

late deal averts US air traffic control strike

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, June 22

A threatened air traffic controllers' strike which would have caused chaos to both national and domestic flights using American airports, has been called off.

In the early hours of this morning negotiators for the Federal Aviation Administration reached a tentative agreement with leaders of the 17,000 air traffic controllers who had threatened to strike today.

The Government's offer of pay and conditions was improved.

Details of the agreement have been released and it has been agreed that the controllers will go to the membership for ratification, but after 25 hours of negotiations over the last few days it seemed unlikely that there would be any late hitches.

Emergency plans had been prepared by government officials in an attempt to keep some services going and a federal judge refused to revoke an injunction which barred air traffic controllers from striking. Since the controllers are federal employees a strike would have been illegal and strikers could have risked fines or imprisonment.



Soldiers all: Members of the Laotian Army, which is open to men and women. It consists of former Pathet Lao guerrillas and royalist army elements.

100 reported dead in Casablanca

Casablanca, June 22.—More than 100 people were killed in two days of violent demonstrations during a general strike here at the weekend, a leader of the opposition Socialist Union of Popular Forces said today.

Many demonstrators, wounded when security forces fired on them, had died in police stations, he said. The strike, called by the Socialists and their trade union organization, was in protest at food price increases brought in last month.

The Socialist spokesman said 26 wounded people died while being held at a police station in the Roche Noires quarter, an industrial suburb north of Casablanca. There was no official confirmation of the casualty figures.

A doctor from one Casablanca hospital said that at least 10 people with gunshot wounds died in the hospital over the weekend.

The Socialist spokesman said there was practically a curfew here last night. Police and auxiliary forces patrolled the streets.

He said security forces fired on demonstrators, many of them young people, in several slum suburbs on Saturday and again yesterday. There were also demonstrations in Rabat, the Moroccan capital.—Reuters

Central America in turmoil

• This is the first of a series of articles on Central America.

From Stephen Downer, San José, Costa Rica, June 22

Not since the early 19th century has Central America been in such a state of turmoil.

A near civil war has cost more than 22,000 lives in El Salvador in 19 months. A flimsy peace is reigning along the mainly mountainous frontier between Honduras, where the Government is right-wing, and Nicaragua, whose leaders are moving to the left.

Supporters of the overthrown and subsequently assassinated Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza are threatening to "invade" Nicaragua and factions of the Honduran military are said to favour helping them.

In Guatemala, territorially the third largest of Central America's five countries, violence, perpetrated by the ultra-right and the extreme left, has cost 25,000 lives in 15 years.

"You don't have a point of view if you want to stay alive," a man waiting at a bus stop in Guatemala City said.

President Carter's human rights policy encouraged the movements which favoured sweeping social changes in Central America. While Mr Carter was in the White House, 50 years of Somoza family rule were ended and a half century of military dominance was broken in El Salvador.

A move was made to return Honduras to civilian government. Elections are planned for November.

The region's ultra-conservatives have taken heart, however, from the Reagan Administration's comparative inactivity to the cry for big



changes in most of Central America's social and economic structures.

Nevertheless, President Reagan has told President José López Portillo of Mexico that he takes seriously the Mexican argument that much needed economic aid to the region must not be tied to arms or subversion to United States ideology and must not automatically exclude any country.

After Spain's conquest of Mexico in 1520 what are now known as the states of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, along with the Mexican state of Chiapas, formed the captaincy general of Guatemala.

They became independent from Spain on October 15, 1821, and in 1823 the five Central American provinces declared themselves independent from Mexico, forming themselves into a federal republic called the United Provinces of Central America.

Troubles between liberals and conservatives led to the collapse of the federation in 1838. Many attempts have been made to restore the union, the closest being the founding of the Org-

anization of American States in 1951.

Through the OAS, the Central American Common Market was launched by Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua in December, 1960, and Costa Rica entered in July, 1962.

Yet it was disrupted by the war between Honduras and El Salvador in 1969 and has had a checkered existence since.

Low prices for agricultural products and high prices for oil, which only Guatemala has found in small amounts so far, have caused what one of Costa Rica's leading economists, Señor Fernando Marañón, calls "Central America's most serious economic problem in 30 years".

Señor Bernal Niehaus, the Costa Rican Foreign Minister, says: "The help and collaboration... of all developed countries is fundamental if our country and the rest of the region are to find a solution to economic problems."

Señor Oscar Arias Sánchez, a Social Democratic Party leader in Costa Rica, puts it more strongly: "The United States has to make up its mind whether to supply trade today or arms tomorrow."

What this country needs is a revival of Blyth's spirit.



Against the strongest armada ever mounted by France, Italy and North America, Chay Blyth has won this year's Observer Transatlantic Race.

Against gale force winds, he and crewman Rob James have also crossed the Atlantic in record breaking time.

Congratulations from The Observer And Britain.



Lennon case accused alters plea to guilty

The original purpose of today's hearing was to begin to choose a jury. Now that the

the change of plea in his chambers and wanted to assure himself that Mr Chapman knew what he was doing before signing it.

Mr Chapman said as he heard Mr Edwards say that it was defendant's sole right to decide how to plead. The judge had decided that the change was made "knowingly and intelligently."

Mr Edwards began by announcing the change of plea and his acceptance of it. Then Mr Allen Sullivan, the Assistant District Attorney, said Mr Chapman, who is 26, had made "a knowing, intelligent and voluntary waiver of his right to a trial by jury."

Mr Marks said that, as well as his client believing that he had heard instruction from God, there was "a serious question as to whether he would be able to withstand the strain of what would have been a long trial without suffering a serious mental breakdown."

10-10-68

accused of murder in Atlanta.

Aspect described intelligent loner

Like 16 other victims on list, Mr. Cater had to be mystified. "He was for many as were six other victims, and, like five others, he found in the Chattahoochee River.

Aged 27, Mr. Cater was oldest of the victims and he also one of the biggest. Five of the others were slightly and much younger.

Officials in the government and business community Atlanta have reacted calmly to news of the arrest. "I'm pleased that we've made arrest at this point. We're grateful that the district attorney has moved," Mr. Ward Jackson, the Atlanta mayor said.

Acquaintances describe Williams as an intelligent solitary person. The only social black middle class Atlanta family, he was called "an" by one of his teachers and "a loner" former classmate. His parents both retired school teachers.

As a teenager, he spent of his spare building radio sets and electronic equipment installed a shortwave radio in his car.

A hearing, initially scheduled for noon today, was delayed until 1 p.m. tomorrow, according to a lawyer representing Williams—Reuter, UPI

Diplomatic balm for Israel

from Ian Murray, Paris, June 22

He is a member of the Gaul-
list RFR, as is the youngest
son of the late General de
François Fillon, a lawyer aged
27, who worked closely with
M. Joël is Theule, the minister
of Defence, who died last year.

The assembly will contain six
former prime ministers: M.
Michel Debré, M. Jacques
Couve de Murville, M. Pierre
Messmer, M. Jacques Chaban-
Delmas, M. Jacques Chirac and
M. Raymond Barre. There has
been a heavy casualty rate
among ministers of the last
cabinets, with many failing to
win a seat, notably M. Alain
Feyrefitte, the former Keeper
of the Seals and Minister of
Justice.

The Socialists had no prob-
lems in seeing their ministers
elected. M. Lionel Jospin, the
party's first deputy prime min-
ister, won a seat for the first time, as did
M. Gilbert Mitterrand, the son
of the President.

The Communists fared badly,
with only M. Georges Marchais,
their leader, and M. André
Garnier, the head of the parlia-
mentary group, among their
senior members succeed-
ing in holding their seats.

Democrats delay Reagan tax cut legislation

from Frank Vogl, Washington, June 22

President Reagan is increasing the pressure on Congress to approve sweeping public spending and tax-cutting plans, but the Democrats are placing obstacles in the path.

If Congress continued to move slowly, the President might have to ask it to forgo this August recess. Mr. Donald Regan, the secretary of the Treasury, said.

Congressional leaders assured the White House in April that they planned to send economic bills to the President for signature by early July. But the timetable is slipping, and the Republicans are becoming worried.

Senator Robert Dole, chairman of the Senate's finance committee, said Democrats in the House are dragging along the passage of a tax Bill and that if all work on it was not completed by the recess, it might be too late to implement tax cuts in 1981.

Mr. Daniel Costenkowski, a leading Democrat and chairman of the House ways and means committee, angered Senator Dole, the White House and Republicans today by saying it might be impossible to complete work in Congress on the tax Bill before September. He said he would like to get a Bill on the floor of the

House towards the end of "I think that is working feverish pace".

Committees of both houses are expected to work on all of the economic programs. Then Bills can be presented to the floors of each and concances between Senate House leaders can take place there after to reconcile differences.

Final votes in both houses are wanted by President Reagan by early July. The Senate finance committee may pass a tax Bill to the Senate next week, also a spending Bill. Timing is far more uncertain in the House. Representatives of President Reagan and his cabinet are phoning congressmen to get rapid action. The President will go to Texas and the later this week to drum up public support for swift congressional action.

Mr. James Baker, White Chief of Staff, said in an interview with the *US News and World Report* magazine President Reagan is "going to do whatever is necessary" (the tax Bill) passed and "confident" he'll get some "selling" around the country to up the impact of this proposal".

Socialists gain in Italian poll

Rome, June 22.—The Italian Socialist Party made serious gains today in local elections involving nearly a quarter of the national electorate. The gains could help to determine the make-up of the next government.

The Communists kept control of Rome, but suffered setbacks in several areas, as did the Christian Democrats.

Nine million people are eligible to vote in 193, 46 and towns.

Against returns from 5,441,414 per cent of the vote, the Communists 20.7 per cent, the Socialists 13.6 per cent.

In regional elections in five years ago, the Christian Democrats took 40.8 per cent of the vote, the Socialists 16.8 per cent and the Communists 10.3 per cent.

The Socialists had hoped for a ripple effect from the slide in the parliamentary elections in France, could put them in a position to demand more Cabinet posts in the Government.

Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Prime Minister-designate, is trying to form a coalition of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Christian Democrats, Liberals and his own Republican Party, is expected to announce

Begin says missile crisis was screen for Iraq raid

From Christopher Walker, Tel Aviv, June 22

Israel radio reported today that Mr. Begin had told the Prime Minister, that members of the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee that his earlier harsh statements about the Syrian missiles in Lebanon had been intended to divert a diversion before the attack on Iraq's nuclear reactor on June 7.

He indicated that, at present, Israeli intelligence activities were not impeded by the presence of the Syrian missiles, and if they were he would immediately give the order to attack the sites. Mr. Begin said opposite that Israel could destroy the five missile sites within 48 hours without suffering casualties.

The Prime Minister said the Christians in northern Lebanon had been informed that Israel could bring some of their militia soldiers to the area, but had no intention of getting involved in a Vietnam-type conflict.

Speaking eight days before Israel's general election, Mr. Begin also told the committee that as American documents existed which backed up information that Israel had been given various sources that the Iraqi nuclear reactor had been intended for military purposes.

The Government's view was that the Syrian condemnation of

was intended to dispel suspicion that they might have been planning to do so operation.

Q Beirut : Mr. Philip the United States Middle East envoy flew to Beirut from Arabia today for talks on the Syrian missile crisis (report).

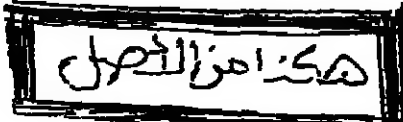
He left Jeddah the day after the assassination attempt for the second phase of his mission, and efforts to bring peace to Lebanon.

Mr. Habib went straight to Beirut, Syria's Ambassador in London, to discuss the matter outside the UN, where it was expected to see the UN Security Council.

He said the pursuing Arab and Mr. Robert Dillman, US Ambassador to Beirut, were before meeting officials.

It had been expected that Habib would remain throughout the meeting, but foreign ministers from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Jordan.

The four ministers said that the violence in Beirut set little prospect for long-term peace forthwith, but Mr. Cheddi Kibiki, League secretary-general, said that they will be where they are in Lebanon on June 8, and the



The fastest, easiest way to find the tastiest raspberry jam in town

Is there any use for a guide to good food shops in Britain? Susan Campbell believes there is and, after months of work and filling cabinets full of correspondence, she has published the second edition of such a work.

She aims to list "the sort of shops which people who care about food will go out of their way to visit". She ignores the big supermarket chains "not because I do not use them but because I've not yet found anyone in a supermarket who could give me the time of day, let alone any first-hand expert advice."

And she quotes Elizabeth Ayton: "It is impossible to take too much trouble over finding shops which sell food of top quality."

So I put Mrs. Campbell, a few of her shops, and through them her book, to the test. Does food from good food shops actually taste any better than food from supermarkets? I recruited an expert panel to help me find out.

Bravely Mrs Campbell herself agreed to come to the blind tasting I devised, with items from the shops she recommended to be pitted anonymously against similar products from the supermarket shelves.

The others in the panel were Shona Crawford Poole, 77, a cook; Jane MacQuitty of Wine and Food, winner of two Glenfiddich wine and food writing awards, who came to us fresh from judging the *salon culinaire* in the Channel Islands; and Alan Davidson, a diplomat, author of *North's Food and Wine* and organizer of a September symposium in Oxford which will bring hundreds of food enthusiasts together to head 40 learned papers on the subject.

I trimmed some of the pâtés and cheeses a little so that it should not be immediately obvious which had come straight out of plastic wraps. But there was nothing I could do about the appearance of the pork pies, and I did not sponge the hams.

In some cases there was no doubt. The panel unanimously hailed Hobbs' hand-made raspberry jam (£1.75 a lb) — "super... delicious... wouldn't be ashamed to have this on my breakfast table" — and exoriated Sainsbury's

pure fruit (35p) — "sickly goo... dreary... spat this out". But opinions divided about Fortnum and Mason's raspberry preserve (30p). "You would eat it along time before you thought of raspberry", admitted Mrs Campbell.

In strawberry conserve, Fortnum and Mason's (50p) disposed easily of "sickly sweet" offerings from Marks and Spencer (55p) and Sainsbury (49p for 12ozs) although the panel were divided about whether one of those was nastier than the other, and if so which.

In smoked fish the supermarkets, represented by Sainsbury, had little to offer. Their kippers (85p a lb) were left for dead by far weightier contenders from Harrods (£1.25 a lb, collecting one first preference) and Steve Hatt of Islington (£1.10 a lb voted top by three). Shona Crawford Poole showed some sympathy: "poor little female, just laid roe — no flesh to her," but Susan Campbell wrote: "Enough to put you off kippers altogether."

For Sainsbury's smoked trout the only comfort was that Alan Davidson preferred it to Steve Hatt's rather aggressively flavoured version (85p). The Sainsbury fish had been reduced to 49p for quick sale, but Susan Campbell described it as "not worth buying" anyway. With six pork pies to choose from, three of the panel plumped unerringly for Harrods' (55p a ½ lb). Jane MacQuitty, though, went for Sainsbury's Natural Pork (24p, on special offer) with Marks and Spencer's Crisp Bake (also Alan Davidson's second choice, 27p, also on special offer) as runner-up.

In the book, Susan Campbell notes that matters of taste are not easy: "Pork pies given a skull and crossbones as contributors tasted like ambrosia to me." So it was not altogether surprising that she dismissed Jane MacQuitty's choice as a "rotten pie", while Jane MacQuitty called hers "delicious".

Something similar happened with the sausages. No two people liked the same thing. This time Jane MacQuitty chose two of the good food shop entries, Cumberland from Paxton and Whitfield (£1.12 a lb) and Old English from Hobbs (same price) in that order. Susan

Campbell chose a third, Fortnum and Mason's Supreme (£1.50), which Jane MacQuitty described as "just like eating breadcrumbs and fat". While Alan Davidson liked it much, opted for St Michael Top Quality (92p a lb) as "possibly more unobtrusive" than Paxton and Whitfield's Tumbled (£1.10). This last Susan Campbell found "revolving". No conclusions could be drawn from that, save that people's taste in sausages can vary greatly.

In the Cheddar cheese section, Paxton and Whitfield won universal praise (£1.76 a lb), although Shona Crawford Poole actually preferred the less sharp flavour of samples from Harrods (£1.22) and Sainsbury (£1.08). Jane MacQuitty voted the Sainsbury second, and Alan Davidson noted with some surprise "how little difference there seemed to be". A third good food shop sample, from Mainly English (£1.60), impressed no one.

The supermarkets, or at least Marks and Spencer, pulled back in hams. St Michael's Italian Dried Cured (35p an ounce) was a lovely revelation to everyone except Shona Crawford Poole, who recognized it. "I buy it", she explained. Jane MacQuitty and Alan Davidson respectively found Marks and Spencer's other offering, Smoked Spiced Ham (72p a quarter) "delicious" and "excellent".

No one had a good word to say for Sainsbury's "waterlogged, fibrous" gammon ham (55p a quarter) or Sainsbury's Roast "ham-wetters" ham (50p), but then Susan Campbell wrote of Paxton and Whitfield's Bradenham (£1.10): "Apologies if this shop is in the Guide." Jane MacQuitty claimed to detect a strong taste of parmesan cheese about this hard, dry and salty ham, suggesting the two had been stored together.

Paxton and Whitfield may just redeem their place in the book, because Susan Campbell voted their York ("it would still be nicer if sliced master" 80p a quarter) equal with the Marks and Spencer prosciutto. The others were less enthusiastic. Jane MacQuitty said it was "dried-up and over-cooked".

Next came the morning's main surprise. Everyone put one of the cheapest pâtés, Sainsbury's pepper and mushroom from the delicatessen counter (25p a quarter, on special offer) at the top of the list. Jane MacQuitty said it was the only one of the seven she would eat, and all the others agreed it was good. Susan Campbell just saved herself by saying that Hobbs' chicken and brandy pâté (at £2.95 a pot) was good, but the others did not agree. "Tastes more like corned beef than anything else", said Jane MacQuitty, and Shona Crawford Poole complained of "nasty, funny spices" and anchovy.

That just left as a *bonne bouche* a small class for assorted trifles, in which Clare's hand-made (£2.60 a half-pound) had a narrow win over Marks and Spencer (£1.65). Jane MacQuitty actually preferred the latter, and Susan Campbell admitted they looked better.

The overall result was a points win, not a knockout, for the good food shops over the supermarkets. Very probably the guide's usefulness would have been more clearly vindicated if it had been logistically possible to gather samples outside London. Yet clearly one could not rely on getting satisfactory food just because the shop supplying features in the book, and also, of course, the supermarkets were not completely disgraced.

Perhaps the saddest lesson is the one pointed by Jane MacQuitty. "All in all, this rather sorry selection does not say much for either our supermarkets or our delicatessen. The French housewife can easily resort to the corner shop without damaging her reputation as a good cook. The British sadly cannot, but must shop around or make it herself."

The book may help in the hunt for quality foods, or at least in locating the more elusive ingredients if we are driven to home cookery. May it sell well, be used with caution and provoke a lot more reports from an increasingly discriminating public.

'Guide to Good Food Shops', edited and compiled by Susan Campbell, Macmillan, £4.95.



Susan Campbell... seeking out the best from the food shops.

ERIC HILL



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Beach beauty by Suzy Menkes

Have you noticed the fading of an all-over tan?

A suntan, like the contraceptive pill, is no longer considered an unmitigated blessing. The idea that brown is beautiful was closely linked to the sexual revolution of the Sixties. The girl with the sun-kissed skin and windswept blonde hair was not just the siren of the holiday brochures, but also the image of liberation. Now those golden girls have grown up and grown older. The side-effects of sun worship may not have been as widely publicized as problems with the Pill, but the effect of sun on skin is written out in wrinkles. In America, warnings about excessive sunbathing are now issued by the experts, who talk openly about skin cancer and other sun-related problems. Since a whole section of the beauty industry has followed the sun, it is unwilling to relinquish a massive market and the emphasis is on caring for your suntanned skin.

In Britain the situation is different. The sun shines so infrequently that our problem is rather how to cope with the sudden bursts of brilliance on a rare weekend or a brief summer holiday.

Protection
The message that sunshine is good for you still beams brightly from those beauty firms involved only in suntan products. The American firm of Pz Buita claims the credit for having "invented" the "sun protection factor" system, which is now the keystone of all

Cover up
The skin-care companies take a line exactly opposite to the suntan houses. The American Erno Laszlo says unequivocally that "the way to retain a good skin is to cover up from the sun". Their basic make-up is apparently 99 per cent sun-proof and the oil they offer to unwary sunbathers is still 40 per cent protective.

An anti-sun sport cream, designed to block sun during active outdoor games, has been introduced by the French firm of Roc, who also say that the sun is "basically harmful to the skin". Skin-care specialists Vichy got only speak of "serious" dermatological problems for sunbathers, but actually discount many suntan products, particularly the oils, which they claim have a very low protection factor and are popular because "the reflection of sun on an oiled body gives the illusion of a deeper tan". Their own range has only milks or creams.

Ribbed cotton windcheater with striped lining £73 in black, red or grey. T-shirt £3, sky shorts £32, hat £3, all by Daniel Hechter of 105 New Bond Street, London W1. Just Jacks of Leicester, Scotts of Cheltenham, Polyvaries of Barnet and Lucy Reynolds of Shrewsbury. Enquiries from a selection at Cassou 24 Rose Street, WC2. Diec necklace (worn on forehead) £8.50 by Adrien Mann from a selection at Selfridges and major department stores nationwide. Shell necklace £1.50, diec on leather thong necklace £9.95, both from Fenwick of Bond Street. Shell and raffia necklace £8.50 and mixed shell necklace £5.50, both by Adrien Mann. Stockists as above.
Hair by Clifford at Michaeljohn.
Make-up by Francine for Maxi.
Photograph by Serge Krougloff.



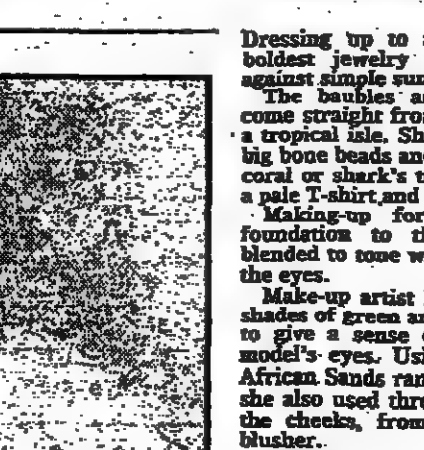
Most beauty firms in this country never utter the frightening words "skin cancer". Orlane, however, quotes an international board of experts that "over-exposure to the sun can cause premature aging of the skin and skin cancer". (Copperstone won an award from the Skin Cancer Foundation of the United States for their research work. Their Super Shade 15 lotion, with a protection factor of 15, is on sale at pharmaceutical counters.)

Science
Moisturizing is the essence of the French approach, because Continental women have traditionally looked after the skin. There is an emphasis on moisturizing in Germaine Monteil's Sensitive range, (which includes a pre-tan formula to use for a fortnight before departure, £5.50), in Lancôme's Hydra Brûlé creams and milks (with a tinted milk at £4.65), and in Harriet Hubbard Ayer's products, which include a useful sun eye cream (£5.75).

The scientific approach to suntanning is emphasized by most of the leading beauty houses — a fact which will not surprise readers who remember my previous article on chemical beauty.

An alarming graph of the "emission curve of the sun" (it looks rather like a pair of pointed bottoms) has been produced by Ultima II to explain the technical basis of their scientific sun control. Their treatment system (containing the unpronounceable Algaephyl) is based on numerical protection factors and includes a Lip moisture stick (Fix Bain do another useful one.)

More graphic information about skin composition comes from Helena Rubinstein, whose Golden Beauty Suncare collection has a suntan acceleration face cream (£4.25) and lotions (£4.75). Clinique also have a Suncare Encourager, but their emphasis is rather on their sunscreen, like the Sun Block cream for face and body and their own range, a screening make-up.



Dressing up to a suntan means picking the boldest jewelry and strong make-up to set against simple summer clothes. The beautes and bangles of high summer come straight from a picture postcard vision of a tropical isle. Shell necklaces as large as a big bone beads and the obligatory string of stick coral or shark's teeth, all look splendid against a pale T-shirt and a bronzed skin.

For the best means keeping foundation to the minimum, cheek colour blended to tone with your tan, and emphasis on the eyes. Make-up artist Francine used three different shades of green and a dark green eyeliner pencil to give a sense of the watery depths to our model's eyes. Using cosmetics from the Maci African Sands range, on a No-shine foundation, she also used three different blushers to shade the cheeks, from a tawny shade to a pinky blusher. Although most women have now got the hang of using a battery of brushes to apply colour, few realise that mixing and blending colours is essential for the currently fashionable face. This summer's beauty ranges have been developed to go with the safari and copper colours of clothing. The leading cosmetic houses have done a lot of the work for us, by producing two, three or even four pan eye colours which are meant to be used together. The system of blending or smudging colours applies equally to women who have abandoned the wider African image in favour of the romantic white ruffles of the (royal) English rose.



Pre-tan product
Also called self-tan. Gives the look of suntan but does not generally contain a sunscreen. Used for cosmetic reasons on celery white limbs or fill in white strap patches. Must be used in the sun in conjunction with screening creams.

Sun protection
Products filter the sun's more harmful ultra-violet rays. They come in oils, creams or milks and are what we describe as suntan preparations. Today's ranges are almost all coded by the "factor" system.

Sun screens
Also known as sun block. Creams as above, but designed to block completely the sun's harmful (and therefore tanning) rays. The most effective of these creams are available at pharmaceutical counters, although a few of the most comprehensive suntan ranges have them. They must be used frequently to be effective.

Suntan encouragers
Also known as speed-ups. Products supposed to encourage a tan by speeding up the natural melanin production of the skin. Mostly in gel or oil form with low protection factor.

After Sun
Body moisturizers designed to discourage peeling. But most do not have a burn or soothe agent, for which you will need a pharmaceutical cream. Boots sell Solarcaine cream, lotion and aerosol spray designed to give instant local relief for sunburn.

THE ARTS

Galleries

Astonishment and delight in Renaissance riches

Objects for a "Wunderkammer"

Colnaghi

Important Italian Baroque Paintings 1600-1700

Mattheisen Fine Art

Art as Decoration

Heim Gallery

Twentieth Century British Paintings and Watercolours

Spink

Leslie Hurry, Artist of Dream and Theatre

Browse and Darby

Julian Trevelyan

Holsworthy Gallery

When the more traditionally-minded of the West End galleries decide to show off, as seems to happen these days, by some kind of unspoken agreement, around the middle of June each year, the result is likely to be spectacular: at the moment it is as if much of the St James's/Bond Street area has been turned, to misappropriate a term from the title of Colnaghi's show, into one big Wunderkammer, where the riches of the Renaissance and after are displayed like the contents of so many jewel caskets, snapped open with a flourish for our astonishment and delight.

The introduction to the lavish catalogue which accompanies Colnaghi's *Objects for a "Wunderkammer"* exhibition (until July 31) raises, naturally, the question of what exactly the term means. Basically it stood for a collection of remarkable objects, the beautiful, the rich and the strange competing on almost equal terms for attention. In this sense, as in others,

the Wunderkammer was the precursor of the modern museum, where heavy, if an important factor, by no means the sole criterion for inclusion. Renaissance princes and their successors up to the beginning of the eighteenth century required various things of their collections. First and foremost, that they should surprise by fine excess: that they should be rare and valuable and impressive, dramatizing the idea of power and position by demonstrating that their owners could so easily possess much beyond the reach of lesser mortals. But also, to be fair, that they should, if only incidentally, extend and illuminate man's knowledge of man and the world about him.

One did not need to be rich, of course, to fulfil this latter function: John Evelyn's cabinet of curiosities, now in the Getty Museum, attests to this. But, to own most of the objects on show at Colnaghi, you would have had to be very rich indeed. Even the simple curiosities, such as the rhinoceros horn held up by three gilt bronze harpies, had the magic of rarity in the West and tended to be displayed with maximum ostentatious religious significance, such as attached to a fragment of St Joseph's cloak, often seemed to take second place to the magnificent splendour of the case. A splendid reliquary of lapis-lazuli, rock crystal and silver gilt, made for Pope Alexander VII and attributed to Antonio de Amicis Moretti. Shown in a splendid reliquary of lapis-lazuli, rock crystal and silver gilt, made for Pope Alexander VII and attributed to Antonio de Amicis Moretti. Shown in a splendid reliquary of lapis-lazuli, rock crystal and silver gilt, made for Pope Alexander VII and attributed to Antonio de Amicis Moretti.



Julius Victor Berger: *Allegory of Venice* (Heim).

heliotope from the Milanese workshop of Ottavio Miseroni (later in the collection, not surprisingly, of William Beckford) counted for much, not only for its workmanship, as in the innumerable rings and pendants and caskets and time-keeping devices, for even more.

And beauty? That is, there, too, though usually an intricate, hard-won beauty rather than the simple, inevitable-seeming sort. For, that one must look mainly to the oriental objects, particularly the porcelains and small carvings in precious stones, prized no doubt by their early owners for exoticism rather than aesthetic value. (Incidentally, the "adjacent show," *Gods, Virgins and Elephants in Colnaghi Oriental* until July 17, is well worth a few minutes of your time.) But some of the waxes, medallions and small bronzes like the *Boys Playing Soccoball*, once in the collection of Louis XIV, are beautiful by any standards you care to apply.

Nor were paintings, if not necessarily the central interest of such collections, automatically excluded, as Etienne de la Haye's painting of the *Kunstammer of Prince Vladimir Sigmundus Vasa* reminds us, mixing up in a happy jumble Rubenses and Breughels with metalwork, jewelry and orientalia. I suppose the paintings in the show *Important Italian Baroque Paintings* (until July 31), are mostly a deal too important to have decorated a Wunderkammer, many must have been designed for large churches or stately halls. However, even here there are enchanting touches of intimacy: a lovely little landscape panel by Cecilio Bravo, for example, which has about it an almost Watteau-like touch of romantic melancholy and magic, or two pairs of still-lives, one by an anonymous Caravaggesque artist and the other by Maso of c. 1625.

Still-life and pure landscape played a lesser, and still insufficiently explored, role in Italian Baroque painting. One number of the paintings on show occupy themselves, surprisingly, with the more bloodthirsty episodes of the Bible and the lives of the saints (anyone who supposes that the present popularity of the violent horror film is a particularly novel and therefore disturbing trend should look here for a corrective insight). We encounter, in rapid succession, *Death of the Virgin* (Gobbi), *Salome with the Head of John the Baptist* (Matta Preti), *Jesus Christ driving a tent-pole into Siseac's ear* (Guidobaldi), the scourging and mocking of

Christ, and more stages in the martyrdom of St Sebastian than you could aim an arrow at. Though the most discreet of the paintings and sculptures shown date from between the beginning of the eighteenth century and the end of the nineteenth. Decorative canvases clearly meant for over-doors or to be inset somehow into rococo or neo-classical rooms evoke the amours of Zeus, propose allegorical scenes like *Genius Urging On the Virtuous Prince*, or set nymphs and shepherds in arcadian landscapes, hunters among decorative scroll-work. The major discovery of the show is John Francis Rigaud's *Constance Resolving Herself to Her Father*, recently identified from a related engraving in Macklin's *British Poets*; the most provocative works are a pair of overripe allegories (of Rome and Venice, the latter particularly fierce-looking female) by Julius Victor Berger, disciple of Makart and lavish in the use of gold leaf and other naive but effective devices to impress. Are they more than kitsch? Maybe not, but at least they stay in the mind, like one of those melodies you despise but cannot help humming in moments of abstraction.

In art it never rains but it pours, so it was only to be expected that my remarks a month ago about the neglect of the 1940s Neo-Romantic painters would instantly require a few footnotes. In Spink's summer show of *Twentieth Century British Paintings and Watercolours*, (until July 7), there are, among many earlier delights — a fine Innes-like Derwent Lees, a stunning Lavery landscape, *The Spanish Coast from Tangier* — a haunting early Keith Vaughan, *Miners in a Narrow Seam*, and three wholly admirable John Minton: a crisp and attractive oil, *A Young Man Seated*, and two of his pen, ink and watercolour landscapes, of which *View from Coleman's Hatch, Sussex* (1945) has the sort of mystical, inward intensity of response to the English scene which these latterday followers of Palmer had a unique ability to summon up.

At Browse and Darby is a small but surprisingly comprehensive tribute to Leslie Hurry, artist of *Dream and Theatre* (until Saturday) which includes costume and set designs from nearly all his major productions (only Helpman's *Hamlet* ballet is missing) as well as a selection of his less familiar independent watercolours. At his best, Hurry was a fine draughtsman with a shimmering, slightly surreal sense of dramatic occasion: his designs for ballet, opera and costume play are

among the best to emerge from the 1940s, a decade which seems increasingly like a golden age of British theatre design. And unlike many such, they stand up triumphantly as self-defining works of art, with no need of support from fading memories of how it all looked on stage. And at Holsworthy (until July 11) is a show of recent work, paintings and coloured etchings, by Julian Trevelyan. My inclusion of him among the Neo-Romantics seems to have raised a few eyebrows, but at the time he was undoubtedly very close to them in style and subject-matter. You would never know it now, as he has continued to evolve almost unrecognizably. These most recent works are in a neo-primitive style which seems, especially when the subjects are sailing ships or seashore scenes, to owe a lot to Alfred Wallis and his more sophisticated admirers, such as Ben Nicholson and Christopher Wood. These works are painted in bold, simple and sometimes not very appealing colours with the emphasis on rather harsh blues and greens: they show a now senior painter (Trevelyan is 71) who is not afraid to do something different. If we like them, fine; if not, well, there are more important things than that in a painter's life.

Similarly, it does not add much to say that Ralph Allen was once an obscure boy of 17 mesself; while the remark that John Wood the elder "was probably the son of a mason and a local boy who became a surveyor" needs a lot of working out. The career of a certain Mr Marchant is presented (page 56) as the case history of a typical local apprentice; but later (page 70) it is asserted that his experience was not that of most apprentices.

John Russell Taylor

Books

Bath

A Social History 1680-1850

By R. S. Neale

(Routledge & Kegan Paul, £18)

The fundamental defect of this long, expensive book is that it is dull, something that no historical work, least of all one about Bath, need or should dare to be. It is also contemptuous of received practice in respect of received practice and grammar, an attitude which undermines the reader's confidence that the author knows what he is about.

What makes a history dull? Professor Neale has made it so by presenting us with a great many statistics and drawing inferences from them which, as he says himself many times, often cannot be substantiated because of lack of corroborative evidence. He provides rows and rows of commodity prices, and toll-gate receipts, and average wages, and court records, and bednights, and the like. He even gives twice over the same list of titled folk attending social functions. But he fails to supply the information — comparisons with other cities, other times — that would give these figures some meaning.

Nor is that all. It seems that a social history has to have some sort of message for today; which consideration leads Professor Neale into speculations about the nature of the property, and the origins of the class struggle which would have made any self-respecting 18th-century artisan drop his bod, and, in a stroke, depending on his calling, and run for the nearest inn. At one point, if I have understood him aright, the author is implying that Bath's own outbreak of Gordon Riots was a result of the fact that Popery was all. He refers repeatedly to something called "the social organization of space" (how reminiscent of Le Corbusier's deadly machine in which to live!) and to the "anomie" of the developing "market society". I must say, as one who is always interested in learning something new about Bath, it leaves me pretty cold.

Let me take some particular cases where I find the argument inadequate. The suggestion that, because Ricardo found *The Wealth of Nations* in a Bath bookshop, Bath might be regarded as having given a lead in economics is too far-fetched to stand. The assertion that in Bath "income was very unevenly distributed" (no doubt) is followed by the satisfying disclaimer that "there is no very knowing what share of this high average income was retained by the various social groups" (Why not? You mean it may not have been very uneven after all?).

Similarly, it does not add much to say that Ralph Allen was once an obscure boy of 17 mesself; while the remark that John Wood the elder "was probably the son of a mason and a local boy who became a surveyor" needs a lot of working out. The career of a certain Mr Marchant is presented (page 56) as the case history of a typical local apprentice; but later (page 70) it is asserted that his experience was not that of most apprentices.

If all this is carping, I can only say that the further one reads the more one carps. I am surprised that Professor Neale has found so little social straw to make his bricks — far less, for instance, than Bryan Little or Sir John Summerson concentrating on Bath's architectural aspects more than 30 years ago. The lengthy disquisition on the financial dealings of the Duke of Chandos unearthed in the Huntington Library, San Marino, California, might have been relevant, since the duke was John Wood's patron; but although Californians must have been a long way to go, in practice the relevance is not clear; the disquisition is simply a digression.

Bath, to me, will never be "an existential expression of the economic and social structure of society and of its dominant ideology" — cannot see it in terms of the sociological jargon which permeates this study to the end. The book becomes more readable once Professor Neale reaches the 19th century and is able to draw on the local newspapers for his material; but at no time does it present any facet of a social history of Bath one fraction so telling, or I suspect so accurate, as any of the single short chapters of *Pickwick* devoted to that city. I have just read them again to check. They are worth a dozen social histories. Remember how Mr Winkle got shut out of his lodgings in Royal Crescent in his nightgown when the door blew shut? Or Sam Weller's soiree? Bednights, forsooth.

Adam Fergusson

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Concerts in London

Mahler perched on a tightrope of suspense

Philharmonia/Ozawa

Festival Hall/Radio 3

Mahler, in his second symphony, had as much to say about silence as about sound. This is what Seiji Ozawa would have had us believe on Sunday in his unorthodox, often self-regarding, but unusually compelling interpretation of the work.

It was a performance whose minute attention to acoustic detail — realized through often exceptionally slow tempi, long, drawn pauses and climaxes and his galvanizing ability to draw the finest and most concentrated chamber playing from each section of the orchestra — was always perched on a tightrope of suspense, be it in emotional effect or, indeed, as to whether his risks would pay off.

The first movement march almost lost momentum, its lyrical passages still as in a numb-lament; but how much more interesting in contrast the shrieking violence of its climax. Here, as in the last movement, built with the same tense, long stretches of fine-etched sound and silence, the points of climax went straight to the pit of the stomach, which, in Mahler, is surely where they should go. Because of the nature of the

first movement, the second seemed, fascinatingly, much less at odds with it than Mahler once feared. On Sunday its sweet recollections seemed frozen almost into immobility: this was no melancholy remembrance but rather a paralyzing trance, articulated through spring playing of remarkable unanimity and conviction. And this, in turn, had its effect on the Scherzo, its own dance the more bizarrely distorted, its very pulse-ticking and staggering in Mr Ozawa's hands.

Jessye Norman and Mr Ozawa played over-indulgently into each other's hands in an "Ulrich" of unnecessarily exaggerated expression: Miss Norman's richly sensuous, highly dramatic projection, though powerfully moving in the last movement, oppressed the simplicity of its prelude. No chorus could, perhaps, have been better cast for Ozawa's last movement: the Philharmonia, who constantly take the prize for the most magically sustained "Aufschwung", sang with a fine control of volume, pitch and texture matched in quality and expressiveness by both the orchestra and by Miss Norman in her richly eloquent "O gläubige Sheila Armstrong was the soprano soloist.

Hilary Finch

Rhythmic liberties taken in pursuit of expression

Ilan Rogoff

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Devoting his recital to Brahms on Sunday afternoon, the London-domiciled Israeli pianist Ilan Rogoff, was deeply aware of the warm romantic heart hidden beneath the composer's forbidding exterior. Though in pursuit of expression he took rhythmic liberties less than stylish in so staunch an upholder of classical tradition, it was still difficult to remain untouched by playing so personally involved.

The F minor Sonata was of course written when Brahms was scarcely out of his teens, long before his public attack on all progressivism deemed by him to be wearing their hearts on their sleeves. But even this ardent, youthful outpouring, with its frequently requested tempo changes, needed a more firmly coordinated first movement.

The opening was splendidly majestic — that is, until the new *first and best* chorale theme, into which Mr Rogoff plunged at the double (or very nearly). Conversely, in the

development he allowed rhythmic tension to sag. The ensuing love song was done with intimate delicacy and poetry; but the sonata's second slow movement, the sorrowful Rückblick, was too elastic for the ominously reiterated rhythmic motif in the bass to tell.

Though accident-prone, Mr Rogoff found the Scherzo's strength, but in the finale again too often relied on tempo change for characterization, with a recklessly fast coda.

Joan Chissell

Opera

Ideal conception and performance for midsummer

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Glyndebourne

The return of Benjamin Britten's music to Glyndebourne, after almost 35 years, must have been plotted with even more care than advance publicity admitted — the perfect British opera for this Sussex country-side setting, opening on Midsummer Day itself. Sir Peter Hall and John Bury had directed and designed it with a full awareness of everything in Shakespeare's play, and Britten's setting of it, and an extra quality that can only be described as stage magic: the living face of enchantment.

The cast is an international one, a Romanian Tytania, a Dutch Theseus, a Swedish Bottom, among native English-speakers, and the top stars as clearly and meaningfully enunciated, as well as sung, as anybody could wish.

The conductor is Bernard Haitink, a dedicated Britten interpreter of many years standing, who drew subtleties of colour and inflexion from the score, for example in the prelude to the second act, that I have heard in no other performance.

You may have read, in our arts supplement last Friday, how John Piper, the first designer of this opera, resolved to exclude green from his palette. So does Bury in this production, for the good reason that, even on Midsummer Night, nature's shades are black and white. Puck's hair is the only colour to be seen — until sunrise in the third act when the forest resumes its natural green, though the floor remains black, glass, reflective and usefully slippery.

Bury's forest is something wondrous to a dendrophile, the leaves on the trees perfectly detailed, the branches properly shaped, the quivering in a breeze, even the nocturnal illusion that trees sometimes move about — here they literally do so, because each is supported by an actor. When Hall wants the stage cleared, off they go, sideways or upwards.

Tytania's slumber, first alone, later with translated Bottom (any animal-lover would fall for the ass's head devised by Bury), always threatens to clutter a stage of modest size, still more at the end of the second act, when she is joined by two pairs of lovers. Hall disposes of the problem with a trap door through which the fairy queen and her assinine paramour descend, leaving the acting area clear.

Puck, in Britten's opera, is



Above: James Bowman (Oberon) and Damien Nash (Puck); below: Ileana Cotrubas (Tytania) with Curt Appelgren (Bottom).



not a treble choirboy, but an actor, agile, and strong in diction, a tough boy in personality. Damien Nash, who takes it here, is short, acutely expressive, almost the star of the show: I wish him a good career in the theatre. James Bowman's Oberon is well known by now, more convincing here than ever, and he has a paragon

queen in Ileana Cotrubas, whose vocal artistry fits her music and enhances it to exquisite purpose.

The costumes are all Elizabethan, courtly for the fairies, bourgeois for mortals, even Theseus and Hippolyta. I was surprised that a log fire was needed on that Midsummer Night, for the theatrical enter-

tainment and its spectators. Britten's setting of *Pyramus and Thisbe* used to cause me acute embarrassment, so clumsy did the parody sound: Hall and Haitink, between them, show that it can look and sound acceptable, even enjoyable — that is, a major triumph for this production.

Another is the treatment of

the four lovers, as Oberon finally causes them to become. Often they have looked, and their music sounded, stiff and unnatural. Here Cynthia, Buchan and Felicity Lott (the latter a convincing "maypole"), Ryland Davies and Dale Duesing, not only make their characters perfectly credible, but sing their music to genuine admiration: the canonic quartet, "And I have found Lysander" (or whomever) "like a jewel", as lovely as anything in the score, still clinched the scene; but on a loftier level, because even the quarrel had brought the musical invention out of the doldrums, and sounded like strong dramatic stuff.

Hall's rude mechanicals are smartly handled, not completely individualized, though Patrick Power's Flute is at once clown-headed and brilliant, and Curt Appelgren makes hay in the sunshine with Bottom the weaver, just the voice, and just the personality, of a genial, ambitious, tall, a kerna mimic, a grand comedian. If anybody tells you that opera is not a branch of theatre, send them to this show, as complete a Shakespeare production as you might see anywhere, and set to mastery music as well.

William Mann

Ruritania here
we come

Opposite the cemetery was

Shopping can be a pleasure in Belfast precincts such as this. Traffic is barred as part of the anti-terrorist security measures.

Northern Ireland is a green and pleasant land, as I rediscovered after a few days of wandering; pleasanter than the Republic, because the

I went down to the border country, or bandit country as it is sometimes known, by bus. The Ulsterbus service is efficient and it was like travelling in an English rural bus of days long past. It was impossible to associate incipient violence with the old age pensioners chatting with the driver and mothers telling their children to wipe their nose. Even on the border. *News of the week*

belong to either of the first two: it was sufficient to belong to the tribe, and accept its age-old sectarian hatreds. Most members of the IRA and the Protestant paramilitary groups come from the working class, though they are used by men higher up the social scale.

The new middle class comes from both religious communities and is in part a product of the 1940s.

Perhaps the Irish bishops will be heard in Downing Street as well as in IRA strongholds. It seems the best chance. Meanwhile, I can report that most of the Northern Irish, despite the divisive past, still live peacefully together and appear to be proud of their province. That is another hope for the

Above all, opponents of mass tourism can be easily denounced as "insular". And, like so much in this life, insular is one of the things which you are not supposed to be, but which most

New words and new meanings: an occasional series by Philip Howard

Now it is true that we can no longer run the English language so as to avoid wounding the susceptibilities of classic

we can resolve not to use it in that way ourselves until at least it is more firmly established.

plain that chaos is sure to follow the appointment of all the new assistant nurses, teachers and gendarmes.

M Chirac: he could offer more porridge.

his economic record, on how he manages (or not) to beat employment and inflation. That he should be given at least six months.

He can be judged now how he squared the communist circle: in a phoney alliance with the French Communist Party since 1971, he has reduced the Communist vote to a mere 15 per cent: 43 MPs have

M Chirac naively believes that M. Mitterrand would depend on Communist support that he would face an insoluble parliamentary puzzle as well as an inexplicable economic situation. Promising to "reconcile Socialism and freedom," Mitterrand will be judged

Up to a point M. Giscard d'Estaing got rid of Gaul. In his 10-year march M. Mitterrand has virtually eliminated French communism. France unloading itself of two arduous relics, and historians, I think will remember that.

If M. Mitterrand now turns the Communists a few ministries it could turn France painful economically.

in Morocco had to be re-shoot because someone had his thumb part of the lens. And Ruth, who was to have played Mr. broke her leg two weeks shooting. Luckily, they man-

Noises off

Defence Secretary John Nott
visit to Brussels today to brief
Joseph Luns, the Nato General
Secretary, on our defence cuts gave

Prince of showmen

Hal Prince, the musical director and producer who brought us *West Side Story* and *Fiddler on the Roof*, has been in London over the weekend "brushing up" his other offering, *Evita*. But he leaves today.

for Norway to research a new musical, *A Doll's Life*. Starting where Henrik Ibsen's play, *A Doll's House*, leaves off, Prince told me yesterday that it in London preparing his British schedule for later this year. He will be back in November and will conduct *Pacific Overtures*, a Broadway musical in the Japanese Kabuki style.

Besides his work with *Evita*, he has just spent the past few days

Besides his work with *Evita*, he has just spent the past few days



The mix went surprisingly well and we were soon musing in much the same fashion as to how many re-

the son of a friend who was sent to stay with a family in Holland. He was lectured before he got to be a little Englisher to respect Dutch customs, what they were. All went well until we asked one morning, when

A footnote to the Sir Cyril fraud saga . . . John McLeod, tor of the Institute of Guidance at Saskatoon in C has written to the editors of *Bulletin of the British Psychological Society* that some of the

A footnote to the Sir Cyril fraud saga . . . John McLeod, tor of the Institute of Guidance at Saskatoon in C has written to the editors of *Bulletin of the British Psychological Society* that some of the

Amusing story from Paul Cav
of the National Association for
Care and Resettlement of
ders, describing his first
speech when he was still a
ager. The chairman, a friend

Case for treatment

...this Town Planning Association
Richmond upon Thames, "St
Ayrton Road, Twickenham.
of use from political party
quarters to intermediate and
centre."

Peter Watson



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

STIFF TERMS FOR M MARCHAIS

The French elections have given President Mitterrand and the Socialist Party a position of power which appeared almost inconceivable a few months ago. The right has not only been evicted from the Elysée, which it had occupied for more than twenty years, but reduced to little more than half its representation in the National Assembly. On the left, the Socialists have become much the largest party, with an overall majority of over 300 in the Assembly, while the Communists have suffered serious losses. The whole political landscape of France has changed.

The question now is what use Mitterrand and his party will make of this victory and, most immediately, whether they will agree to have Communists as members of the government. Until quite recently it appeared most likely that the Socialists would not be able to win a majority on their own, and that they would have to come to some sort of accommodation with the Communists in order to get a majority for their legislation in the Assembly. But that is not the way things have turned out, and the Socialists are not now dependent on Communist votes.

The arguments against having Communists in the government are straightforward, and they are reinforced by the fact that the government can do without Communist votes. It is bound to be disturbing to France's allies. There would be doubts about how far France could be trusted in matters of security, especially if information on sensitive topics was likely to become available to Communist ministers. It could also be taken as a precedent for Communist participation, in spite of rather different circumstances, in the governments of Italy and Spain.

There would be fears that the Communists would influence French policies at home and abroad.

There are, however, arguments in favour of bringing the Communists in, which derive from the structures of French politics. The Communist Party has been an important factor in French life for many years, and a largely disruptive one. It has been the achievement of M Mitterrand to create a Socialist Party which has become more successful than the Communists, and which has now inflicted on them their worst defeat in many years. M Mitterrand has done this by constantly emphasizing the theme of unity of the left, which has meant that many voters who previously voted Communist have swung to the Socialists. If after being elected, he and the Socialists were to be seen to be excluding the Communists, and so against the unity of the left, they could lose these new-found supporters, especially if times became difficult for them.

It is after all extremely unlikely that the present popularity of the Socialists will continue indefinitely. They, and Mitterrand, have been elected because of a desire for change, and because they were seen as being moderate in their policies. There have been high expectations of improvements in living standards after the more difficult times at the end of M Giscard d'Estaing's presidency. But times are not easy for any of the western economies, and the likelihood is that the French Government will have to take unpopular measures to deal with inflation and other difficulties at some point. If the Communist Party was outside the government, it would be all too easy for it to take advantage of the discontent, and to wax eloquent about how the Socialists had

sold out to the right. Inside the government, it would have to share the responsibility for government policies.

The Communist Party has taken a serious blow in this year's elections. This is partly the result of M Mitterrand's strategy, and partly of the party's own changing policies in recent years, which has disgusted many of its supporters. An inquest will now be held and M Marchais's position will obviously come under questioning. But the party remains strong in the trade unions, and could cause the government great difficulties; and it is always a potential rallying point for discontent.

Everything will depend, therefore, on the terms on which Communists may be admitted to the government. They would have to accept Socialist policies in a number of areas in which there have been marked differences between the two parties. Externally, these include a robust line with the Soviet Union on such issues as Afghanistan, Poland and the SS20 missiles, and Socialist support for the Camp David agreement between Israel and Egypt. Domestically, there are differences about how many private concerns should be nationalized and a range of economic policies. The Communists would also have to give a plausible undertaking to observe government solidarity when unpopular measures are taken. The indications so far are that they are prepared to swallow their pride on much of this; and the Socialists are in such a strong position after the elections that they can drive a hard bargain — and it might be that at the end of the day the Communists would find the demands made of them too steep. That is a matter, for them.

MR FOWLER'S PRUDENT MOUSE

It is only with some gritting of the teeth that the Government has brought itself to back British Rail's electrification plans even to the extent announced by Mr Fowler yesterday. The idea of spending one's way out of recession goes too much against its instincts and it sees British Rail as the archetype of the obstinately inefficient nationalized industry which it wishes to expose to harsh economic reality, not load with fresh subsidies. So there was no unconditional commitment yesterday, and no blessing for any one of the five options for electrification put forward by British Rail. It is a considerable deflation of last week's hopes.

It is true that British Rail has been promising improvements in efficiency for years, with too little to show for it. Productivity improved at the slowish rate of five per cent a year throughout the 1960s, and then fell to five per cent over the entire following decade. The present plans assume a reduction in the workforce of one-sixth over five years, a slight improvement in the unfilled plan of five years ago. In spite of 20 per cent fare increases the network slipped back from profit into loss again last year. The attitude of the rail unions does not encourage optimism about future co-operation.

with unofficial strikes last month and threats this month from Mr Sidney Weighell that official strikes if the Government did not agree to a "miners-type" investment programme to buy them off.

Mr Weighell has not been given his "miners-type" programme. Quite rightly not, since his comparison implied spending to bolster areas of activity with no adequate prospect of economic or social rewards. His intervention must have made the Government more reluctant rather than less to underwrite an investment that might simply be poured away into the railways' pay packets. Step-by-step monitoring of results is an essential safeguard for any commitment to restore the railways.

But given safeguards of that kind, the potential rewards are immense. Because of Treasury insistence that renewal must be paid for out of current cash flow — a demand it does not make for roads — the rail network has been starved of capital to the point where a sharp decline in efficiency will soon become inevitable as equipment simply wears out. This applies not only to lines carrying the potentially profitable inter-city services mentioned by Mr Fowler yesterday. An imaginative investment scheme

can have implications for morale and efficiency throughout the organization and support the railway manufacturing industry in its export efforts. And just as some trains are run as a public service, even though they can never be profitable, the benefits of the lines which can and should cover their costs are not limited to what shows up in the immediate profit and loss account.

A properly monitored investment programme promises environmental gains in switching traffic from road to rail, and an "insurance" against energy shortage, taking advantage of Britain's resources of coal and nuclear power. The effect on public spending will be less than railway accounts alone might suggest, because the work would provide custom for our increasingly efficient steel industry. And, in spite of the low credit that Keynesian ideas have with this Government, public investment in capital projects adding permanently to our industrial infrastructure is a valuable resource in time of recession. Railway electrification can be a classic example of that kind of enterprise. The Government is right to be concerned about safeguards, but if the Victorians had followed the same approach we would still be in the horse and buggy era.

Education and employment

From Mr M. J. Maguire and Mr D. N. Ashton

Sir, We read with interest your editorial of June 12 and Mr William H. Stubbs's letter (June 16) regarding the importance placed on educational qualifications by employers recruiting young people. Having recently completed a comprehensive study of employers' policies and practices in recruiting and selecting young people for employment, we would like to make the following points:

1. We found that in recruitment to a wide range of occupations, including many in the white-collar and skilled manual sectors, employers attach greater importance to "personal skills and qualities" than to academic qualifications. This was frequently true even when such qualifications were stipulated as a requirement of entry to a particular job, for although they may have secured the applicant an interview, the final decision was made on the basis of the candidates' personal qualities as reflected in their appearance, attitude to work, general behaviour, etc.

2. Contrary to popular beliefs about the raising of the level of qualifications demanded by employers, and the use of educational qualifications to restrict entry to a wider range of occupations, as claimed by Ronald Dore in *The Diploma Disease*, we found that notions of qualification inflation could only be applied to the higher end of the occupational scale, notably in the professions. (Incidentally, we consider that the case presented by Ronald Dore constituted hypothesis rather than documentation.)

3. The prize-winning efforts of Mr Stubbs to gain acceptance of "pupil contracts" as a means of dealing with the non-academic qualities of young people will require a change in the attitude of employers to the school report. Of the 350 employers interviewed by us in our research, the great majority placed little or no reliance on school reports when assessing a young person's candidature.

4. Perhaps our most disturbing finding related to the enormous gulf between education and industry. Generally, employers perceived the educational system as being ignorant of the world of work, what it was all about, and failing to produce the young people they required, not in terms of educational qualifications but precisely in terms of the attitude and behaviour that they would like them to consider. Our research indicates that it is the educationists who tend to over-emphasize the importance of qualifications. Employers are much more sceptical about the value of qualifications, and therefore are taken by both sides to gain a better understanding of each other's requirements and philosophies, for the benefit of the educational system, the employing industry, and, most of all, young people.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. MAGUIRE,
Research Associate,
D. N. ASHTON,
Senior Lecturer,
Department of Sociology,
The University,
Leicester,
June 17.

Maria's tragedy

From Mr Roger Gattley

Sir, The Maria Mochanagi inquiry (June 11) is a sad case of the failings in the present child abuse inquiry system. I speak as the social worker who had the initial task of co-ordinating actions taken with Maria at St James's Hospital in January, 1978.

Witnesses, I feel, should have the chance to correct errors at the point where they occur. The misrepresentations appear both in the inquiry report and your subsequent article. Firstly, although initial information on Maria was given to the police by St Thomas's Hospital to retrieve her from King's College Hospital. Secondly the juvenile bureau were not involved because the Criminal Investigation Department in M Division (Southwark) advised that they were the appropriate branch to deal with. Excellent cooperation was subsequently established between police and social workers although there were feelings that the strength of police action was anti-therapeutic when considering any chance to rehabilitate Maria.

Furthermore, there is a strong case to show that these inquiries cause unnecessary suffering to the social worker involved. I am not wishing to evade individual responsibility, but we must question whether the pilorying of social workers by media and society in such cases is helpful. After all, it was not the social workers who battered Maria. In this case, the social worker, a man of absolute integrity and high professional standards, was placed by industrial circumstances and management failure in a situation where he had to defend the strongest will. The current which hunt by certain papers ignores the comment made in the report that there are bound to be inevitable effects on society if 120 social workers go on strike. Maria's tragic case contains many lessons for all to learn from. It raises moral dilemmas — for example, should social workers ever strike? I have no doubt that the full range of resources being available to help Maria in her sad and limited situation would have been quite different.

In the final analysis enough good reputations have been ruined over the years by child abuse investigations. The Department of Health and Social Security must take responsibility and provide guidance and support to social workers in this area. It is not enough for reports and their ramifications to become a fashionable pastime for a society that is all too voyeuristic and content to sit back and let social workers be its professional conscience and whipping boys at one and the same time.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER GATLEY,
11 Swan Place,
Eilon,
Aberdeenshire,
June 12.

Concern over the Springbok tour

From the Acting High Commissioner for Tanzania

Sir, Your editorial of June 20 upholding the unfettered right of sportsmen in a democratic society to play with whom they wish, irrespective of consequences, may be academically laudable. It fails to recognize, however, that the proposed Springbok tour of New Zealand has occasioned intense concern not only in countries whose understanding of democracy you regard as less than perfect, but within New Zealand, where the majority of whose population are reported to be opposed to the tour.

Your concern to uphold the freedom of the individual, including the freedom to do wrong, in fact misses the issue. The question of the present controversy by not addressing itself to its central issue — the issue of apartheid.

As you say, the more totalitarian the regime the more likely it is to use its prowess in sport as its diplomatic initiative abroad. Exactly so. It is precisely because of this that the projected tour of New Zealand is seen by most of us and most certainly by South Africa as a serious breach of the international campaign against apartheid. At the heart of the matter is not acid political theory or interpretation of democracy, as your editorial implies, but the more fundamental moral issue of the gross and systematic denial by South Africa of the most basic rights and freedoms to the overwhelming majority of its citizens because of their colour. The world community has accepted a responsibility to work for their emancipation, and the Gleneagles Agreement was a Commonwealth contribution to this wider effort. When they make their annual commitments, Commonwealth leaders were perfectly conscious that a balance would need to be struck between the

larger good and individual freedoms, but they were unanimous in their confidence that this would be done in such a way as to ensure that "there were unlikely to be future sporting contacts of any significance between Commonwealth countries or their nationals and South Africa".

As the Commonwealth Secretary-General has pointed out, the proposed Springbok tour of New Zealand constitutes the most significant breach of the Gleneagles understanding of the unanimous expectation of Commonwealth leaders at Gleneagles. The point of the protests within and without New Zealand is whether the right balance has indeed been struck. That higher principles can be made to prevail where there is a will that they should be evidenced by the fact that Australia has made it clear that it will refuse even transit visas to the Springboks.

There is a offensiveness (whether studied or inadvertent does not much matter) in your assumption that Third World countries may be either naïve or hypocritical. We are neither. But to say in effect to the New Zealand rugby union: "What you propose to do is wrong, but be assured of your freedom to do it" will appear to be a somewhat less than the effective fulfilment of the commitments of Gleneagles to stand against apartheid. Such a message of injured compliance brings comfort to the South African government, but it is the kind of assurance that it seeks from the "free" world over a yet wider field of wrongdoing. It is certainly not a message you must expect to issue from today's Commonwealth.

Yours truly,
L. E. HOWELL,
Tanzania High Commissioner,
43 Hertford Street, W1,
June 22.

Strike threat at British Gas

From Mr Tim Eggar, MP for Enfield, North (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Denis Rooke's response (June 19) to your story (June 17) was disingenuous.

The Monopolies Commission, after three years of study, stated clearly that the gas showrooms monopoly was against the best interests of consumers and gas appliance manufacturers.

As might be expected Sir Denis has always jealously defended British Gas's monopoly powers regardless of the national interest. However the tactics he has employed over the past weeks in defence of the retail monopoly have been both unexpected and unjustified. £2m of taxpayers' money has been earmarked for the massive showroom advertising campaign designed to gain public support for the monopoly. Admittedly, the massive advertising campaign has been made about the deterioration in safety standards if the monopoly were to be removed. Understandably employees and their unions have been persuaded about the possible job losses.

Sir Denis has done nothing to allay that concern. Indeed he has stated that up to 40,000 jobs in the last of the commission's "radical" proposals is followed. Yet the showrooms employ fewer than 3,500 people and the commission commented that the TUC evidence of a 30,000 job loss was an extremely high estimate.

If a strike does occur in the gas industry Sir Denis will bear a great deal of the responsibility.

Yours faithfully,
TIM EGGAR,
House of Commons,
June 22.

Church treasures

From Mr J. W. S. Litten

Sir, Mr J. W. S. Litten's letter (June 17) and go further in asking for qualified laymen to advise on the disposal of church treasures. This lamentable and unenviable task is at present undertaken by diocesan furnishings officers, themselves often full-time workers whose qualifications for appointment have never been officially formulated by the church authorities, so doubtless there must be many cases of ignorance of value.

Due to paragraph 62(2) and 65(8) of the Pastoral Measure, 1968, too many items of great artistic and devotional importance, often given in trust to the Church, have been sold for a few pence or to the open market to the greater financial gain of dealers and the cultural impoverishment of the individual parishes concerned.

Surely a prime example of the Church's failure to be bright for a mass of potatoes?

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN W. S. LITTEN,
The Vicarage,
St Barnabas Road,
Walthamstow, E17,
June 17.

Lloyd's Bill

From the President of Wolfson College, Oxford

Sir, The reasons which led to a substantial majority of the Fisher working party to recommend that Lloyd's brokers should be required to have direct access to the ownership of managing agencies (Business News letter, June 1) are set out in chapter 12 of the report. The same considerations do not apply to links between members' agents and managing agents.

The possibility of action contrary to the interest of assureds (which was a powerful motive for our recommendations in chapter 12) does not arise, I believe, that, if it became impossible for the same person, firm or company to act both as a managing agent and as a members' agent, so that it was no longer possible for managing agents to have direct access to the standards of underwriting would decline and Lloyd's would suffer. Names would be deprived of the freedom which they now enjoy (and which they may well consider to be in their best interests) to their affairs in the hands of an agency which has its own syndicates.

Incidentally, it would become far more difficult to carry through the recommendations of the working party on the ownership of managing agents.

Yours faithfully,
H. A. P. FISHER,
Wolfson College,
Oxford,
June 11.

Hunger for knowledge

From Mrs Susan Hall

Sir, I teach English to immigrants, including the foreign wives of English sailors. To set up my class I was lent six books and given a stack of cards, three felt-tipped pens and a pot of glue.

Today I attended a conference for teachers of English as a second language. It was very pleasant, with wine for lunch and cream scones for tea.

What are our priorities? Cream teas or books?

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN HALL,
21 Queensberry Avenue,
Hartlepool,
Cleveland,
June 19.

Crestfallen

From Chester Herald

Sir, As a graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge who, like the Earl of Chester, achieved only a modest D II, I am glad the university has dropped its plan to give Prince Charles and Lady Diana a set of table mats embroidered with the university's crest ("Thrifty gift" Times Diary, June 19). This would have been even thrifter a gift than a secondhand book for the university has no crest like many ancient institutions it bears for its coat of arms a shield alone.

Those who forget the meaning of the word "crest" should compare in their mind's eye the great crested grebe and the poor old coot.

Yours faithfully,
HUBERT CHESSHYRE,
Chester Herald,
College of Arms,
Queen Victoria Street, EC4,
June 19.

Help for British films

From Mr Alan Sapper and Sir John Terry

Sir, Mr William Burnside (May 26) and Messrs John and Roy Boulting (May 12) have criticised the proposed set up of a British Film Authority without apparently having read the two reports in which this idea was formulated. These were the report of the Prime Minister's working party on the future of the British film industry (Cmd 6372) and the first report of the Interim Action Committee on the film industry (Cmd 7071) published in January, 1976 and January, 1978, respectively.

Both reports made it abundantly clear that the BFA would not be either "a total control of the principal sources of finance" (Messrs Boulting) or "appointed to see that the new party line is strictly adhered to" (Mr Burnside) or named "a plethora of civil servants who would exercise control over the film makers" (Mr Burnside).

What these reports in fact stated was that the fragmentation of government responsibilities in relation to film in all its forms had contributed to the present weakness of the British film industry and that it was therefore logical and sensible or responsibility for films as an industry and film-as-art to be unified through a British Film Authority responsible to a single minister — not "another minister" (Mr Burnside) but one minister instead of, as at present, several ministers.

The BFA itself — which would place the Cinematograph Films Council, the National Film Finance Corporation and the British Film and Video Agency — would consist of seven and nine members of whom at least two would be drawn from the film community and at least one would have a particular concern for the interests of the viewer. The BFA would be the principal advisory body to the government on all matters relating to film, and its various powers could be exercised with the assistance of advisory committees, members of which would be drawn largely from the film community and which would be in a position to exert considerable influence on policy as well as being targeted with normal routine activities.

Perhaps the use of the word "authority" has misled some into assuming that the BFA would be a

despotic force over the film community rather than its efficient servant. We urge them to read the reports.

Again, when Mr Burnside says that "the Government-funded Film Finance Corporation, not to mention the earlier postwar Crown Film Unit, did little to advance major film production in this country at the cost of millions to the British taxpayer" he seems to have forgotten that the Crown Film Unit nurtured some of the finest film-making talent Britain has ever produced. And he seems to be unaware of the fact that the National Film Finance Corporation over a period of 30 years beginning in 1949 received from the British taxpayer an aggregate sum of only £3.5m. Out of this sum it paid interest to the British taxpayer totalling £4.8m and met its own operating expenses of £1.8m; and that with the balance of about £2m, it has been able to finance basic and earning profits on one out of every three films supported, it advanced over £31m in helping to finance 750 feature films (from 17 Third Man to The Elephant Man) and thus kept in being a British film industry which would otherwise have been submerged under the tide of American imports.

Finally, Mr Burnside's allegation that the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians did even less than the National Film Finance Corporation to advance major film production in this country is manifestly untrue since it is the ACTA's own members — directors, cameramen, film technicians of all kinds — who have achieved for British film production an international reputation for excellence.

We are, Sir, yours very truly,
ALAN SAPPER,
JOHN TERRY,
2 Soho Square, W1,
June 3.

Point of qualification

From Miss Moira McGovern and others

Sir, To gain entry to some institutions offering a degree which is recognized by the College of Speech Therapists as a licence to practise, it is necessary to sit for three A levels, not two as stated in your editorial of June 12.

It is a thirst for the snobbery of creating a more exclusive profession, is a misleading and

inaccurate way of describing how professional and licensing bodies ensure that the public is served by practitioners whose skill keeps pace with developments in specialized areas.

Happily, for the general well-being, it is indeed "no longer enough" for doctors to have to ease pain, for dentists to have strong wrists, for bus drivers to be interested in driving or for train drivers to have "a love of locomotives". Such sentiments are a reasonable basis for embarking on a course of study or training but they are not in themselves "badges of employability".

Times change but it seems The Times does not change with them.

Yours faithfully,
MISS MCGOVERN,
MARGARET EDWARDS,
DAVID CRISTAL,
Queen Margaret College,
Clarendon Terrace,
Edinburgh,
June 15.

The duty to nominate

From Mr Jeffrey Rooke, MP for Birmingham, Perry Bar (Labour)

Sir, It is simply not true (report, June 15) that the Yorkshire area council of the National Union of Mineworkers will, by not nominating candidates for reselection this year, save itself from "the same lengthy process next year", when the parliamentary boundaries are changed. Perhaps they have their own version of the Labour Party rules book.

Reselection has to be "set in motion not later than 36 months from the last general election" (clause XIV (7), ie, by May, 1982).

Reallocation (not reselection) of new constituencies between existing prospective candidates (ie, re-elected MPs and others) cannot take place until after the House of Commons has approved the new English parliamentary boundaries, and the earliest estimate of this is spring, 1983.

For mandatory reselection (which I support) of Labour MPs to begin in the same Parliament as a distribution is inconvenient to say the very least — it is, however, no excuse for any affiliated organisation to rewrite the rule book to suit its own convenience.

Yours etc,
JEFF ROOKE,
House of Commons,
June 15.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 22: The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron and Trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, toured the English Regions today in connection with the Award Scheme.

His Royal Highness, attended by Major John Carpin, travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight. The Prince of Wales, President, The Mary Rose Trust, dived on the site of the Mary Rose off Portsmouth, today.

His Royal Highness, attended by Major John Winter, travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

CLARENDON HOUSE
June 22: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this afternoon at a Garden Party given by the Tradesant Trust at Hatfield House, Hertfordshire.

The Dowager Viscountess Hambleden and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 22: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present this afternoon at a Reception given by the High Commissioner for the Eastern Caribbean Commission to launch the stamps to be issued to celebrate the Marriage of The Prince of Wales and The Lady Diana Spencer, at the London Hilton Hotel.

The Princess Margaret was accompanied by the Hon. Anne Tennant was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 22: The Duke of Gloucester, President, British Consulate, Burton, was entertained to lunch by the Master (Mr A. W. Howell), Warden and Clerk of the Merchant Taylors' Company, London, today.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. P. Blythe and Miss L. R. Sheldon
The engagement is announced between Mr C. P. Blythe, of Western Australia, and Miss L. R. Sheldon, daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher, of Western Australia. The marriage will take place in Western Australia on July 18, 1981.

Mr J. M. F. Robbins, RM and Miss C. E. Hillhouse
The engagement is announced between Mr J. M. F. Robbins, RM, and Miss C. E. Hillhouse, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. F. Robbins, of Western Australia. The marriage will take place in Western Australia on July 18, 1981.

Mr J. M. F. Robbins, RM and Miss C. E. Hillhouse
The engagement is announced between Mr J. M. F. Robbins, RM, and Miss C. E. Hillhouse, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. F. Robbins, of Western Australia. The marriage will take place in Western Australia on July 18, 1981.

Lord Mayor of London

The following are some of the Lord Mayor's engagements this week:

Today: Receives Governor of the Virgin Islands, 9.30 am.

Tomorrow: Attends election of the Guild, 10.30 am.

Monday: Receives Governor of the Virgin Islands, 9.30 am.

Wednesday: Receives Governor of the Virgin Islands, 9.30 am.

Thursday: Receives Governor of the Virgin Islands, 9.30 am.

Friday: Receives Governor of the Virgin Islands, 9.30 am.

Saturday: Attends election of the Guild, 10.30 am.

PRIDAY TEAM WIN TROPHY

From an initial entry of 377 teams, the Priday team won the trophy for the first time in the history of the competition. The trophy was presented to the team by the Lord Mayor of London.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Michael Albuquerque was christened at St. Mary's Church, London, on June 21, 1981, at 10.30 am.

Fishmongers' Company

The Fishmongers' Company has announced that it will be holding a special service for the late Lord Mayor of London, Sir John Glynne, on June 24, 1981.

Moreover... Miles Kington

One of the most colourful sights in our city streets today (writes our urban naturalist, "Bin-Liner") is the daily bedecked police vehicle as it flashes past on the way to its business. What a business it is, in some doubt, as no observer that I know has ever been lucky enough to see one arriving at its destination or even stop for a moment in its headlong flight.

But did you know that their siren calls vary a great deal like birdsong. And that, like birdsong, each call seems to contain a specific message? Next time you hear a police car approaching, listen carefully to the sound it is making; you may be surprised to find it will enliven your daily routine, and who knows?—prevent your early death.

Party held for garden museum

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother attended a party held yesterday for the Marchioness of Salisbury at the Marchioness of Salisbury's Garden Museum, London. The party was held to celebrate the opening of the garden museum, which is a collection of garden furniture and objects from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Birthdays today

Today: Sir Leonard Hutton, the cricketer, who is 65 today.

Mr. J. M. F. Robbins, RM, who is 65 today.

Miss C. E. Hillhouse, who is 65 today.

Latest appointments

Mr. J. M. F. Robbins, RM, has been appointed as the new Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company, London.

Latest wills

Mr. J. M. F. Robbins, RM, has left a will valued at £44,453 net. He has left £10,000 each to the Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

Church news

The Rev. P. J. G. Gordon, Vicar of St. Andrew's Church, London, has been appointed as the new Vicar of St. Andrew's Church, London.

Plans go ahead for Pope's visit

By John Witherow

The Roman Catholic Church is going ahead with plans for Pope John Paul II's visit to Britain next year, despite renewed fears about his health.

The Pope, who is 61, will be fit enough to undertake the rigorous six-day schedule.

Mr. Ralph Brown, the general coordinator for the visit, said: "The Pope is a very strong man and will be fit enough to undertake the rigorous six-day schedule."

Mr. Brown also confirmed that the Pope will be accompanied by a large entourage, including his personal secretary and a large number of aides.

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OBITUARY

SIR KENNETH PARKINSON

Chairman of Yorkshire Post Newspapers

Sir Kenneth Parkinson who died on June 20, was chairman of Yorkshire Post Newspapers and a director of the parent company, United Newspapers.

He had shared his interests in a particularly active and vigorous life between the textile industry, into which he was born, and agriculture in the North of England. He was also prominent in Conservative politics in Yorkshire and as a county councillor for 10 years.

He was a well-known and a reliable rider to hounds.

Kenneth Wade Parkinson was born in 1908, the eldest son of the late Bertram Parkinson, of the West Riding, and was educated at Uppingham and at Clare College, Cambridge.

His father had done much in the latter part of the 19th century to develop the association between Bradford and the colonies in wool marketing and through the company he formed, B. Parkinson & Co. Ltd., had also become one of the best-known top makers in this country, with a large business overseas.

It was into this organization that Kenneth Parkinson went as a young man, leaving the University. He passed through all the stages, and travelled widely in its interests until, after the death of his father in 1951, he succeeded to the chairmanship. He had also for some years been on the board of another leading textile concern, A. S. Henry & Co. Ltd. He had for many years been a director of Yorkshire Post Newspapers, and in 1966

became chairman of the company. Three years later he became a member of the board of United Newspapers.

He had been president of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce and the Bradford Textile Society. He was the first president of the Bradford Publicity Association.

In politics he was what he himself described as "an ardent Tory" and in 1939 he accepted an invitation to become the chairman of the Bradford Conservative and National Liberal Association. During his long association with the party in Yorkshire he never hesitated to devote from strict party loyalty and say the unpopular thing when he thought the occasion demanded it. In this post he brought to bear his knowledge of business and finance, and his experience for some years as treasurer of the Association, an office in which he succeeded his father.

Otherwise, he was keenly interested in farming, particularly in the development of the "Young Farmers' Club" movement, and in the North he was prominent as one of the leaders of the Royal Society of St. George. He was knighted in 1967.

He was High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1963 and Deputy Lieutenant of the West Riding, subsequently West Yorkshire, in 1967.

He married in 1937 the Hon. Dorothy Lane Fox, third daughter of the first and last Lord Bingley, and they had two daughters.

One daughter died in 1980, and a daughter is also deceased.

He was engaged in technical intelligence work. He was on the directing staff of RMCS in 1954-56. From 1958 to 1968 he was employed by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority. In 1968 he was awarded a NATO research fellowship.

His published books included *The March on Delhi*, which was a study of the Indian independence movement, and *The March on Delhi*, which was a study of the Indian independence movement.

He was a member of the Royal Society of St. George, and a member of the Royal Society of St. George.

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Record £10,000 for Andrew Plimer miniature

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Sotheby's sold the portrait miniature of Andrew Plimer, a miniature of Andrew Plimer, for a record price of £10,000.

The miniature, which was painted by Andrew Plimer, was sold for a record price of £10,000.

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25 years ago

San Francisco, June 21—Mr. Dulles today described Mr. Khrushchev's attack on Stalin as "the most damaging indictment of the Soviet regime since the war."

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University news

London

Professor J. L. Brown, MD, Professor of Vascular Surgery at St. Thomas' Hospital Medical School, has been appointed to the chair of surgery at St. Thomas' Hospital Medical School.

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Help for jobless—
is there an
answer? Page 18

Business News

THE TIMES June 23 1981

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Italy's junk
TV,
page 18

Stock markets

FT Index 5443 up 2.9
FT Gilts 66.15 up 0.37

Sterling

\$1.9925 up 2.15 cents
Index 95.7 up 0.6

Dollar

Index 108.1 down 0.6
DM 2.3695 down 53 pts

Gold

\$462.50 up \$4

Money

3-month sterling 12½-12½
3-month Euro \$ 18½-18½
6-month Euro \$ 17½-17½

IN BRIEF

Few takers for BOC offering

BOC International, the leading British group in industrial gases, yesterday saw most of its £22m of 9 per cent convertible loan stock offering rejected by the stock market. Underwriters, the big investment institutions who insure such issues for a fee, are having to take up 73 per cent of the stock.

They will probably sell it on the stock market in coming months; this will hold back the price of the ordinary shares.

The stock began to look unattractive as the price of ordinary shares in BOC fell away. This is not the first time the market has rejected BOC; in 1975 more than 50 per cent of a right issue was left without takers.

St Piran adjournment

Mr Justice Dillon yesterday adjourned the hearing of the winding up petition being brought against St Piran, the mining and construction group, until July 23. The petition is being brought by Runcie Nominees which holds under 1 per cent of St Piran's shares for Genor, the South African mining group.

3-D camera production

The world's first full 3-D camera aimed at the mass market began production in Dundee yesterday. Nimble, the designers, have received grants of £2.7m to help equip their factory.

Peugeot loss

Peugeot, the French car maker which takes in Talbot in the UK, yesterday announced the £1,500m (£135m) net loss for 1980 which it forecast last November. The comparable figure in 1979 was a profit of £1,800m. Investment rose from £5,068m to £5,758m.

Eurobond flotations

West Germany's leading banks have decided against arranging a calendar for mark-denominated Eurobond flotations because of the lack-lustre state of the new issue market. Today's decision means that the near freeze on new foreign mark loans will continue.

Tesco superstore

Tesco is to build a multi-million pound superstore at Abingdon, Oxfordshire. The 20-acre site is on the A34 Abingdon bypass, where a store, garden centre and filling station will be built. Work is expected to start in August and finish before Christmas, 1982, creating about 200 jobs.

Zips plant closure

Work at the Talon Division of Texton—an American company—which makes zip fasteners at Treforest, near Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan, will end within five months with a loss of 360 jobs. The company blames cheap foreign imports from Japan, Taiwan and Europe.

Record deliveries fall

Record companies' deliveries declined by 1.5 per cent to 19.3m units during the first quarter of 1981, with the value of orders up 4 per cent to £12.8m. Rising imports, home taping and the recession were blamed for poor sales.

Bakery jobs go

The Mothers Pride bakery at Peterborough is to close by September with the loss of 190 jobs. Production is being switched to other bakeries. The company blamed continuing losses at Peterborough for its decision.

US tax cut move

The United States Senate Finance Committee voted yesterday to reduce capital gains tax from 28 to 20 per cent. It also agreed to cut the top individual income tax rate of 70 per cent to 50 per cent on investment income.

Wall Street lower

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 1.99 points down at 994.20. The S&P 500 was 1.15862. The E was 0.583688.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Berkeley Exp 10p to 336p
De La Rue 15p to 720p
RAF Higgs 4p to 44p
TEC 18p to 706p
Lasmo 12p to 559p

Falls

Atlantic Res 5p to 170p
Jive Discount 2p to 29p
Cropper J. 5p to 123p
Fisher J. 5p to 165p
Jardine Platt 6p to 226p

Big switch likely on money supply rules

By David Blake

Big changes in the way the Bank of England operates to control the money supply are likely to come into effect towards the end of August.

The Bank has circularized the clearing banks and a number of other banks with proposals for changing to a system where all eligible banks will have to deposit an amount equivalent to half of one per cent of their eligible liabilities with the Bank of England.

Comments on the proposals are expected from the commercial banks over the next two or three weeks. If there are no big problems, the Bank will announce a date from which the new system will operate.

August 20 has been pencilled in as the chosen time. At some point before then the Bank will issue a new list setting out the names of all eligible banks covered by the system. Leading foreign banks in London are likely to be included, thus widening the scope for control. If all goes well, on August 20

the Reserve Asset Ratio system will be abolished. This has served a double purpose, in controlling the money supply and in preventing banks from taking excessive risks.

The reserve asset ratio prevents banks from having deposits which are too large in relation to their assets. They have been asked for written assurances that they will not change their policies, which are designed to prevent their lending from rising too fast without getting Bank of England permission.

The reserve assets system has been heavily criticized in recent years for failing to accomplish either of its tasks adequately.

On the same date that the reserve assets system is abolished, all eligible banks will be expected to deposit money with members of the London Discount Market Association amounting to about £3,000m, which is likely to be roughly 5 to 6 per cent of their eligible liabilities. This is less tough than the present system.

Clearing banks will have a cut in the amount they formally deposit with the Bank of England from 11 per cent to a half per cent, but they will have to keep working balances.

For the first time, other banks will have to keep deposits with the Bank of England.

The latest proposals flesh out the first step in what is intended to be a long evolutionary process of reform of the monetary system.

Most of the contentious questions, such as the effective abandonment of Minimum Lending Rate, are left undecided. The measures outlined in the Bank document, mostly cover which banks will be affected and the structure of the arrangements.

The changes do however open the way towards a more market-oriented system for controlling the money supply, possibly moving towards some variant of monetary base control if it were decided to go down that path.

Tax move to aid ailing US savings banks

From Frank Vogl
Washington, June 22

The Reagan Administration and Congress are hoping to see a cut in interest rates soon as a way of helping America's ailing savings and loans institutions, the equivalent of building societies.

There are fears in some banking quarters that many savings institutions will be forced to close their doors if high interest rates continue for another few months.

But the administration and Congress have decided against emergency legislation to assist the savings banks. However, some help is likely through an amendment to tax legislation, now being drafted in Congress, which would enable the savings banks to offer tax-exempt certificates of deposit to the public.

Today Citibank and Chemical Bank in New York both raised their prime lending rates to 20 per cent. The Federal Reserve flooded funds to the markets to bring down short-term loan rates but rates generally are highly volatile.

Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, told a stock exchange meeting that the administration was serious about its anti-inflation programme. Once the markets and investors fully grasped this then interest rates would start to fall reasonably rapidly.

America's banking authorities are closely monitoring more than 250 savings institutions that are said to have particular difficulties.

The problem almost everywhere is that these banks have large amounts of fixed, low-interest mortgages on their books. Depositors are withdrawing savings that pay less than 6 per cent, and their cash is being invested in higher yielding mutual funds offering rates almost three times as high.

The United States League of Savings Associations, the industry's trade organization, first sought to lobby for legislation to offer tax-exempt savings certificates to the public at a yield equal to 70 per cent of the prevailing yield on treasury bills.

Some congressmen back this general idea, but want safeguard clauses added to ensure that the savings banks use revenues obtained by this means to issue new mortgages.

More aid to keep Harland's afloat £57m lifeline for Belfast

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor



Harland's yard in Belfast where the company hopes to build bulk coal carriers.

Further state aid in cash and guarantees on commercial borrowings totalling almost £57m are to be made available to Harland and Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilding and engineering group.

A total of £46m is being provided by the Government this financial year. It will be supported by government guarantees on commercial borrowings up to a ceiling of £10.5m.

This was announced yesterday in a brief two-paragraph written parliamentary answer by Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland.

The announcement boosts the total financial aid made available by successive governments to Harland and Wolff to more than £300m since the mid-sixties.

The latest rescue comes after the provision of a similar sum a year ago to the Belfast group, which has suffered from a continuing cash crisis for years amid the continuing social and political troubles of Ulster.

Successful chairmen and chief executives have sought to make the company profitable, but their hopes have constantly proved wildly optimistic.

In 1979 the company recorded a loss of £42.6m and the figures for last year, which are expected to be published in the next few days, are likely to show only a marginal reduction in the size of loss.

The Government, however reluctantly, has been forced to provide a financial lifeline for Harland and Wolff because of the company's importance as Belfast's dominant employer, whose liquidation would lead to an even larger drain on public funds.

Harland, along with other yards in the United Kingdom, has suffered from a desperate need for new orders to maintain employment for the workforce. Its present order book will be exhausted in two years time.

Vessels on order consist of the last of a series of ferries for British Rail whose production has been severely disrupted, two liquefied petroleum gas carriers for British Petroleum, and two 109,000-ton deadweight

oil tankers also for BP.

Over the past year the company has developed a range of designs for large bulk carriers and is hopeful that the expanding trade in the shipping of coal will lead to orders for this type of ship.

A year ago the Government appointed an independent review team under Sir Patrick Meaney as chairman to prepare a report on the prospects of Harland and Wolff diversifying into other activities and making use of the extensive facilities which exist at the company's Queen's Island yard.

Mr Butler said that the Government was considering the review team's report and the company's corporate plan which will cover the period to March 1985. A further statement is expected to be made shortly.

Harland and Wolff's sole shareholder is the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce. The company has been under effective state control since 1975, although even before then Government equity had been a little under 50 per cent.

Date set for shipyard closure

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Reporter

British Shipbuilders yesterday finally announced the date of closure of the Robb Caledon shipyard in Dundee—September 15. Management said that the run-down of the remaining labour force of 435 would have to be completed by then.

British Shipbuilders, which announced its formal decision with regret, said the yard had been losing money for some years, that passes currently stood at £250,000 a month and that the yard was without work

or the prospect of further orders.

Last week the corporation had made it clear to union leaders in Newcastle that it intended to close the yard, which has been the subject of negotiations with the unions for more than 18 months, but promised to give a week of further thought before making yesterday's announcement.

The last vessel built at Dundee, a small ferry for use on the Tyne, was completed earlier this year, and the corporation said yesterday that attempts to win orders for engineering or off-shore equipment which might have maintained jobs had proved fruitless.

A total of 80 technical staff and 45 apprentices employed at the yard will be retained within British Shipbuilders, and the corporation also said that it would attempt to ensure that as many as possible of the rest left through voluntary redundancy, retraining and redeployment.

Enterprise zone opens at Corby

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

England's first enterprise zone, at Corby, one of 11 zones being established to stimulate new businesses, was formally opened yesterday.

It will be followed by others over the next three months, and all of them will offer considerable advantages to companies within the zone areas.

Benefits include relaxation of planning requirements, exemption from rates, 100 per cent capital allowances and exemption from development land tax.

The Corby zone, which covers 280 acres, was formally established by an exchange of leases between the Commission for New Towns and the Bradbury Group, a local developer, and witnessed by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary.

Some 50 acres have already been committed to development, with 32 factories under construction and six companies already operating.

Mr Heseltine, speaking at the opening ceremony said: "I can't promise zones will be successful—that depends on people taking advantage of the opportunities. But I am very encouraged by the enormous interest shown by the private sector."

Referring to criticisms about the enterprise zone concept, which was announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, in his Budget of the Exchequer, in his Budget last year, Mr Heseltine said if companies looked at the opportunities and took advantage of the freedoms available, enterprise zones would have the potential to help everyone, both inside and outside the zones.

The Government has launched the enterprise zones as an experiment in attempting to generate new economic activity throughout the United Kingdom. The first zone to be designated, the lower Swansea valley, was inaugurated earlier this month.

Call to ease state industry curbs

By Rupert Morris

Sir Francis Tombs, former chairman of the Electricity Council, said yesterday that he would have stayed on in the post if he could have secured the right kind of Government financing system.

He told MPs on the Treasury and Civil Service select committee that no managing director of a big company would accept the kind of constraints imposed by external financing networks.

Earlier, members of the accepting houses committee and the issuing Houses Association had recommended to the committee that nationalized industries should be given freedom

to borrow in the markets as an alternative to borrowing from the National Lending Fund.

Mr Paul Richards, of Samuel Monagu, pointed out that in other countries nationalized industries were able to borrow on their own account, and this was excluded from the public sector borrowing requirement.

But in reply to a question from Mr Edward du Cann, chairman of the select committee, Mr John Baring, chairman of the accepting houses committee, agreed that substantial borrowing in the markets by nationalized industries would tend to push up interest rates.

Free-for-all 'no value to Telecom'

By Our Industrial Staff

The Society of Post Office Executives, which represents 24,000 of the engineering management in British Telecom, has called on the Government to think carefully before liberalizing the telecommunications network.

The society's views are contained in a report by Professor Christopher Foster, director of Coopers and Lybrand's economics and public policy division.

A document published by the Government in April, based on a survey conducted by Professor Michael Beesley of London Business School, came out strongly in favour of the private sector competing with British Telecom in providing certain network services called "value added services".

But the Foster report disputes whether the private sector leasing British Telecom circuits simply for rehire adds any value to such networks.

"What Beesley proposes appears to be to simply buy and reselling BT's long-distance circuits. That has no precedent in the USA or elsewhere. But more crucially, it does not appear to involve adding any appreciable value to the BT service."

Professor Beesley was influenced by the Americans' liberal approach, but the Foster report concludes: "There is no basis for assuming that the United Kingdom can realize similar benefits from the simple resale of BT's existing capacity to third parties for unrestricted use."

The telecommunications Bill, expected to be law by the end of this session, will empower the Industry Secretary to grant licences to private operators.

Argentina adopts two-tier peso to protect reserves

From Tony Emerson, Buenos Aires, June 22

In order to halt the run on Argentina's reserves, the central bank adopted a two-tier exchange policy today, creating a "commercial" peso and a "financial" peso.

The "commercial" peso will be fixed by the central bank and be used for payments and receipts of imports and exports calculated for Argentine ports.

The central bank today fixed this value at a selling rate of 4,438 to the dollar, compared with 4,430 on Friday. This is in accordance with the policy of the crawling peg devaluation of about 6 per cent per month declared three weeks ago.

The "financial" peso will be allowed a clean float. Although exchange brokers were given a strong official hint that the financial rate should be about 5,000 pesos to the dollar, the physical shortage of dollar bills pushed the selling rate up to over 6,000 pesos, but it subsequently dropped to about 5,500 when markets closed.

Small investors are besieging exchange houses in the centre of Buenos Aires. They fear that the new measures—which have tripled the peso value of the financial dollar in six months—will trigger a spell of hyperinflation.

Pound rises against weak dollar

By Our Economics Staff

The pound jumped 2.15 cents against the dollar to \$1.9925 against the dollar, the highest foreign exchange rate since the American currency weakened in response to lower dollar interest rates and Iraq's threat late in the day to cut off all supplies to the United States.

Swelling also gained against Continental currencies, its trade-weighted index improving 0.6 to 50.7.

The dollar ended London trading at DM2.3695, down 55 points from Friday. It opened sharply down from the previous close in the wake of a slide in Eurodollar deposit rates after Friday's better than expected United States money supply figures.

It recovered during the course of the day when it became clear that American domestic interest rates were remaining firm, with the key Fed Funds rate trading at around 19½ per cent up from 18 per cent late on Friday.

Citibank and Chemical Bank announced the great majority of leading American banks in raising their prime rates from 19 to 20 per cent.

The French franc emerged from Sunday's election unscathed. It was steady within the European Monetary System and gained on the dollar, but it lost ground against sterling, which climbed from 11.113 francs on Friday to 11.203 francs yesterday.

Unigate £30m expansion

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Unigate is investing £30m to expand its Wincanton subsidiary, with special emphasis on its rapidly growing transport business.

The intention is to establish Wincanton's name in national transport. Until now it has been generally regarded as the company primarily responsible for Unigate's own transport, such as the bulk carriage of dairy products.

With little publicity outside the trade it has become Britain's fastest growing independent company in commercial vehicle contract hire and rental.

Opening a new £5.5m complex for Wincanton Transport at Darlington, West Midlands, yesterday, Mr John Clement, chairman of Unigate, said three further sites at Chippenham, Wiltshire, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, and West London were under construction at a cost of around £2m each.

Bids in for survey of technology

By Bill Johnston

Six management consultants have submitted proposals to the Government on how best to survey the benefits that could accrue to Britain from technological joint ventures with Japan.

The consultants, invited at the end of April to submit their tenders, all have offices in both Britain and Japan. A decision is expected by the end of July.

The study, which will probably take at least six months, was first proposed 18 months ago but has received greater impetus in the wake of a ministerial visit to Japan in April, when a collaborative agreement with the Japanese Ministry for International Trade was signed.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology, who has recently held talks with Mr Rokusuke Tanaka, Japan's Minister for International Trade and Industry, is keen on encouraging such joint ventures.

The survey is expected to cover two principal areas—information technology and the application of electronics to manufacturing processes.

There will be ministerial exchanges between Britain and Japan. Delegations of business men led by representatives of the Department of Industry will be visiting Japan in the coming months.

Recent statements by Mr Baker have emphasized that the Government wants any exchange of ideas to be a two-way process, and several leading British companies in the machine tool industry have already entered into agreements with Japanese counterparts.

A House of Lords European Communities Committee report published today underlines the importance of a strong, competitive information technology industry to the future of both the United Kingdom and the European Community.

A gripping tale of export success Jubilee for the best clip joints

By David Hewson

It may do little to ease the tension between Japan and Europe over the imbalance of trade between the two, but Britain can claim an important new export success in the land of the rising yen.

If you want a hoseclip with panache in Osaka it should have the "Jubilee" stamp on it and have first seen the light of day in Gillingham, Kent.

L. Robinson, which, with its 200 employees, has been turning out Jubilees since 1921, has now become Japan's biggest source of hoseclips. Jubilees clamp pipes on the earth-moving giants made by the equipment manufacturers Komatsu and keep the Hondas of Japan's upwardly mobile classes on the road when the home-made versions call it a day.

The Gillingham company invented the clip and held on to the patent until the end of the last war, when Japan took advantage of the expiry of the patent and started to make its own.

According to Mr Chris Bunting, Robinson's sales manager, his company hit back 10 years ago by appointing a Japanese trading company, Shirio, as its agent.

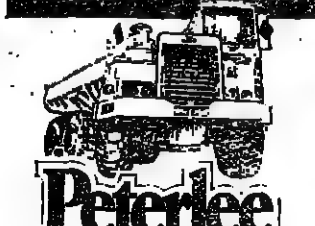
producers at the time—it was almost a cottage industry. Mr Bunting said: "What our trading company did was establish the British Standards Institution trademark as a standard of quality and the Union Jack as our trademark. It has increased and increased our share of the market."

To such an extent, apparently, that £500,000 of Robinson's current £5m turnover comes from exports to Japan, where its Kentish virtues have become a byword of hoseclip purity. Its up-market stainless steel models are particularly pleasing to Oriental tastes.

The company now has to contend with international competition from everyone who can turn out the clip, a device tightened by a single screw which will be familiar to everyone who has had to deal with a leaky radiator.

With the recession, its export share of production has fallen from 48 per cent to around 40 per cent. But according to Mr H. Yashima, vice-president of Shirio, who has just visited the Gillingham company, the Jubilee remains Japan's most prestigious and popular hoseclip in the face of myriad smaller competitors, and prospects for the future are still bright.

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THE PLACE TO BE

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

BOC changes the convertible rules

The news that underwriters are earning their keep by having to take up 73 per cent of the £32m BOC International convertible rights issue is hardly tragic. It is disappointing for stock market dealers in convertibles who badly want a bigger market to deal in. There are around 200 convertibles outstanding with a nominal value of some £1,000m, but 15 of these account for 70 per cent of the total. All the same BOC has secured its money without diluting equity, and its merchant bank, Lazards, has demonstrated that it won its client the finest terms available, albeit at the expense of alienating parts of the City.

However, the BOC issue is bound to have repercussions. The consequences of an issue being left with underwriters is that subsequent issues will have to be on more generous terms. The BOC coupon of 9 per cent was acceptable—it compares with a 5.3 per cent yield on the ordinary shares—but the conversion price of 135p against a share price that ended yesterday at 123p was plainly too high. In rational terms, the market chose to take a cautious view of BOC's dividend paying potential. To make matters worse when Lazards fixed the terms of the issue BOC shares were 127p, but the BP £600m blockbuster changed that.

From now on companies issuing convertibles will probably have to erase the conversion premium. For once the impression gains ground that a convertible issue is too finely pitched the temptation to sell shares and buy the convertible or simply to sell the shares and buy them back will be strong. The process once started becomes self-feeding. The sacrifice the company has to make in giving up the conversion premium is a small one. A straight issue of ordinary shares would mean equity dilution through the issue of shares at a discount of more than 20 per cent. And the interest coupon on a convertible is offsettable against corporation tax. Meanwhile, BOC underwriters may be unhappy, but the group is doing well, interest rates will fall at some stage, and the convertible at 297½ is starting to look attractive.

Meanwhile, investors will today be giving their verdict on the BP issue with trading today in the nil-paid rights. Although things have been complicated by the Government's sale of part of its stake and the payment by two instalments, the issue is expected to go well with some arbitraging possibilities between the ordinary rights and the Government rights.

Courtaulds Changing profile

As the rationalization and closure programme at Courtaulds gathered pace last year, so the balance of the group has been changing. The bulk of capital is still employed in the United Kingdom, where Courtaulds made a net trading loss of £7m during 1980-81, but the proportion has been declining. Last year the balance between capital employed in the United Kingdom and overseas moved from just under 2:1 to under 2:1.

The other major structural change at Courtaulds is the growing importance of its non-textiles interests. In profit terms these

has been announced in Northern Ireland at Campsie. This will account for a sizeable part of the £41m extra depreciation Courtaulds provided in the accounts, reflecting the writing-down of fixed assets where their useful life was in doubt beyond a few months.

However, the fabrics division, which swung from trading profits of £14m to £8m losses during 1980-81, provides a prime example of the success of the ruthless cash management policy which has involved withdrawing capital from those areas without a long-term future. Despite the turnaround to losses, the operating cash flow from fabrics was more than doubled to £33m and it was this kind of action throughout the group which enabled Courtaulds to end the year with net liquid funds up from £34m to £86m and maintain net debt at about three-fifths of shareholders' funds.

As for the future, Courtaulds sees no real evidence yet of any upturn in its United Kingdom operations, and further closures here must remain a possibility. However, the overseas operations have started the year well and are expected to produce an improved performance, and with the shares at 68p, Courtaulds is beginning to look a reasonable bet on a long-term recovery stock.

Anderson Strathclyde

Long-term promise

The Western world's commitment to doubling coal production by 1990 has established a promising horizon for mining equipment groups like Anderson Strathclyde. The shorter perspective, however, is far less encouraging.

Anderson struggled to push up pretax profits by 8 per cent to £6.3m on turnover up £12m to £84.2m last year, although comparisons are masked by the previous year's first-half loss after a damaging strike and subsequent second-half recovery. But the group has clearly been shaken by the sharpness of the downturn in National Coal Board orders in the final six months. Extensive short-time working was introduced and 400 workers—almost a tenth of the force—made redundant at a cost above the line of £840,000.

This exceptional cost was more than countered by an interest saving of over £1m helped by last August's £6m rights issue and the group claims to have seen some pick-up in short-delivery orders towards the year end. It is still far from clear, however, how and when the recent increase in the NCB's external financing level will work through into firm spending.

Meanwhile, low industrial production and the present oil glut, no matter how temporary, are hardly spurring Western governments to stick to their schedules for coal output at the moment. Policy in the United States, where Anderson is building new plant, remains far from clear.

All of which seems to point to a dull trading performance in the shorter term, with possibly some gain in the current year. This prospect makes yesterday's 21p rise shade expensive after yesterday's 21p rise to 101p on a fully-exposed p/e ratio of almost 16 and yield of 5.7 per cent. But the balance sheet is strong and the spectre of Charter Consolidated, which picked up a 28 per cent stake in a dawn raid a year ago, should attract buyers on any significant weakness.

● There will be signs of relief in the international banking fraternity at the news yesterday that Poland's Bank Handlowy has repaid the principal on a \$30m floating-rate note which could have caused the house of cards bankers have been so assiduously building in recent months to fall down. Bankers had been nervously looking at this particular loan since the failure of Poland to pay could have resulted in holders of the notes declaring the loan in default and triggering the sort of cross-default clauses that caused so many problems during the Iranian banking crisis eighteen months ago.

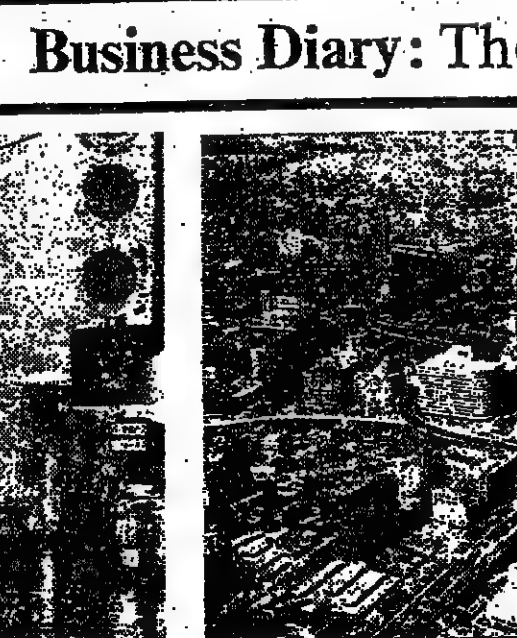
The Polish authorities had been arguing that this particular loan should be part of the general renegotiation of its debt irrespective of the fact that bond issues and bank loans are completely different transactions. Meanwhile, the new hard-line approach of the United States banks to rescheduling Polish debt, where the proposals had been proceeding almost too smoothly in view of the complexities involved, promises another cliff-hanger tomorrow at the meeting of the bankers' task force in Paris.



Mr Christopher Hogg, chairman of Courtaulds.

have been crucial in keeping Courtaulds in the black at the pretax level. International Paint, for instance, produced £22m of the £30m group trading profit last year and the proportion of capital employed in non-textile interests rose last year from about one-fifth to nearly a quarter of the total as the textile operations were chopped back.

Fabrics has been the worst sufferer among the broadly-based textile operations and since the year end another major closure



Osaka, Japan—the Manchester of the East: (left to right), the treeless, downtown business district and Osaka Castle.

Osaka This city is known as the Manchester of Japan. It has a textile tradition that runs deep—although there the similarity stops. The temperature here does not fall much below 70°F and climbs into the nineties when the sun comes out.

The population of Osaka has been dropping since 1975, when people began moving out to elsewhere in the Kansai region where there is more space and greenery. With 2.5 million inhabitants, Osaka now ranks third in size among Japanese cities, after Tokyo and Yokohama.

It is not difficult to see why people prefer to live in the surrounding towns such as Kyoto, Nara and Kobe. Osaka presents an almost unbroken expanse of concrete to the eye and after even a few days here one longs for grass and trees. The municipality is aware of this deficiency and is gradually increasing the green areas of the city by planting trees and creating parks.

The textile industry remains the largest local employer, although in terms of turnover it has long been overtaken by electronics. Matsushita, Sanyo and Sharp have their headquarters in Osaka and have all done much to make Japan the world leader in consumer electronics.

The present star of the indus-

try is the video cassette recorder (VCR), with which the Japanese have captured 95 per cent of the world market. According to Takatoshi Yamamoto of the Nomura Research Institute, about eight million VCRs will be made this year worth £2,300m—enough one day to overtake colour television as a revenue earner. By the end of this decade a combined television and VCR cassette recorder is today. At

This afternoon the Government is due to publish the latest unemployment figures. The June total is likely to be up on last month's 2.5 million, a figure which includes nearly 1 million who have been out of work for more than six months.

Can anything be done for this group—the long-term unemployed?

According to the Treasury, it costs the Government £70 a week (in benefit and lost taxes) to have a man unemployed rather than employed. And the person in the prolonged want to work. So there would be gains all round if employed person back to work at a cost to itself of £70 a week.

This is not as easy as it might sound. General retraining is nowhere near self-financing, but well-designed "special measures" can provide jobs at much less net cost to the Government. Since the are targeted to disadvantaged groups they have three further advantages.

First, because the jobs are provided in the slackest parts of the labour market, they generate the least additional upwards pressure on wages. Secondly, since they are provided to the most deprived, they make for a fairer distribution of what jobs exist. Finally, the special measures show the Government as directly helping particular people who are in trouble.

The Government has understood all three arguments in relations to youth, but it has so far done very little for unemployed adults. One reason is that they are more difficult to help. They cannot be put in training positions at less than a full wage. They want real jobs on full pay, and it is in society's interest that these jobs be as productive as possible.

In my view, such jobs must be mainly provided in the regular part of the economy by the well-established employing organizations, the majority of which are in the private sector. They cannot be sufficiently provided by ad hoc publicly-supported projects of the job-creation variety.

So how can private employers be induced to hire the long-term unemployed? An ordinary recruitment subsidy would be no good, since it would lead mainly to so-called "churning", whereby long-term unemployed were hired in preference to other workers or short-term unemployed, with little net increase in jobs. This problem could be largely avoided if the payment of the subsidy were conditional on the firm not reducing its non-subsidized employment below its present level.

So the Government should undertake to pay any employer hiring a person who has been unemployed for over six months £70 a week for a year (or the equivalent lump sum of £3,500), provided he does not reduce his non-subsidized employment below its present level.

The reason for choosing £70 and a year is that £70 is the Exchequer cost of an unemployed person and a year is roughly the amount of time that an unemployed person completing his first



six months of unemployment can now-days expect to remain unemployed for more than six months. If every person subsidized represented a net increase in employment, the scheme would be self-financing.

In fact of course there will be some deadweight cost to the Exchequer: some employers will be paid for doing what they would have done in any case. But that does not damn the scheme any more than investment subsidies are

damned by their deadweight cost. The scheme must be assessed in terms of overall benefit and cost.

For this purpose it has to be looked at as a subsidy to job increases, linked to the principle of targeting. As instruments for stimulating the economy, subsidies to job expansion are far better than the cuts in employers' national insurance contributions which the Confederation of British Industry is asking for.

For suppose the money given to

firms by way of a one percentage point reduction in the rate of NI were instead paid entirely in respect of additional workers employed, and suppose these additional workers were say 2 per cent of the workforce. Then the cost of an additional worker could be reduced by 50 per cent of his wages, instead of by 1 per cent. Clearly this gives a much more powerful boost to employment.

In fact in an article in the *Economic Journal* (March 1980) Stephen Nickell and I established that a job-expansion subsidy would imply a much lower Exchequer cost for each job than any type of conventional reflation.

The scheme would be of maximum benefit in manufacturing where it would greatly help to reduce the marginal cost of exports and import-competing goods. Moreover, while a general employment subsidy runs the risk of encouraging low productivity jobs, there need be little fear of this with a subsidy confined to expanding firms. The main role of the subsidy will be to bring forward jobs which would otherwise be created later in the recovery. This is exactly what is wanted.

The scheme should be announced with a life of say two years. Anything shorter will make too little impact, but equally a scheme of this kind cannot last for ever. If it were introduced boldly on the scale I have suggested, I see no reason why it should not generate over a quarter of a million jobs quite quickly.

Such a scheme will not, of course, cure the problem of the long-term unemployed.

Many of these people would be willing to work, even for nothing beyond the dole. The difficulty of providing them all with work is the sheer cost of paying them at the full rate for the job. But if people are willing to work for less than that, it is a crime to frustrate their desire to do something useful with their lives. If people are to be paid less than the rate for the job, relations with the unions require that this be done in totally self-consistent projects that are not seen as substituting for work that would otherwise be done by "properly paid" workers.

So unfortunately the only way one can guarantee a right to work is to provide the full-back jobs in separate publicly-supported projects of the job creation variety.

Pay must be high enough to provide a meaningful work offer to a father of four, and not only to a single man. Yet if the father of four is to be paid say 120 per cent above his benefit level, it will be very expensive to pay the same to a single person as well. It is no alternative to relating the pay to the individual's benefit level; if there is to be any chance of the Government being willing to meet the bill.

Richard Layard

The author is Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics and Head of the Centre for Labour Economics.

How junk television is taking over Italy's airwaves

A typical night's viewing in Rome: a private channel Charles Laughton is grinning through *La Tragedia del Benvenuto*; on another King Kong scales the Empire State Building for the umpteenth time.

The pulp output of Hollywood, known locally as *film E*, is a full flow everything from *Charlie's Angels* to *Cowboy in Africa*, *L'Incredibile Hulk* to *Dallas*.

Somewhere amid the anarchy of the Italian airwaves sits the state broadcasting system RAI, its audience rapidly dwindling in the face of a television free-for-all unrivalled in the history of the medium.

RAI is worried. Its officers look forward with trepidation to August when its contract with the state must be renewed. "We are in a bit of a bind," says one of them. "We are about to be flooded and what can we do?" asks one of them.

The answer seems to be nothing. With 636 companies operating nearly 800 channels up and down the country, the private sector has finally found its feet and is feeding the nation with just what it wants. When RAI monitored Italy's 90 largest stations last November, it found that 39 per cent of their output consisted of cinema films, 18 per cent made for television, 15 per cent further 9 per cent cartoons. The next largest category is advertising.

Largely untainted by any desire to carry current affairs or serious programming, the

private stations are attracting Rome's least 30 per cent of the peak-time audience in Rome and Milan and the move away from RAI is gathering pace.

"The three RAI channels are so pretentious and boring in themselves, with lots of talking heads and pompous people speaking to each other," says Massimo Fani, managing editor of the Rome English language daily *International Daily News*. "People have just been turned off by it."

International Daily News already has its own radio station, pumping out a diet of pop music, and English language news from its newspaper office. Now it is looking for a private television station in Rome ripe for takeover. With at least 15 already operating there is no more room left on the airwaves for another new one.

The scramble to get on the air started in 1976 when RAI's broadcasting monopoly was ruled illegal by the constitutional court. Private television and radio could broadcast, as long as it did not interfere with RAI.

The other rapidly filled with independent stations set up for the time as £40,000 and putting out a good deal of late night soft porn—and some times the harder variety: the American sex film *Deep Throat* was shown on three consecutive nights by one Rome station.

Now the situation has largely disappeared, to be replaced by

The latest money-maker is a variant on that ancient Roman custom—blackmail. Several radio and TV stations have paid out money to stop others jamming their output.

the endless round of feature films and cartoons.

"It all got too gross," Mr Fani says. "The stations found that the money in advertising in a family audience. It doesn't matter how many strip shows you've got—you have to put them on at a later hour. No one has got the money for genuine local production so the best thing to do is to go to America to buy *Charlie's Angels*."

The private stations may have moved, in their own relative terms, "up-market", but their lack of money for making their own programmes still causes concern.

"We all know that sooner or later we have to become real television operators," says Signor Piero Ottone, a former editor of Italy's leading newspaper, *Corriere della Sera*.

who now runs the television operations of the Mondadori publishing empire. "Everyone's worry in Italy now is that we are having to scrape the barrel."

Mondadori, along with two other large publishers, Rizzoli and Bompiani, is playing an increasingly large part in the running of the private stations.

Rizzoli is involved in a legal wrangle with the Government which, if successful, will allow the private stations to operate not just locally, but nationally something which RAI regards with horror.

Mondadori has been more cautious. It is setting up a group which will sell programmes to private stations and act as an advertising agent. While this might have the advantage of a network, it does not involve Mondadori in direct ownership of a string of stations and consequently does not contravene the present law.

Bertusconi has invested heavily in television, up to £25m—and has been rewarded with the leading position in Milan and second place in Rome. Signor Silvio Bertusconi confidently expects that he will top the private ratings in the capital very soon.

Few of the operators, large or small, can have made much money out of the stations. Advertising is plentiful but at extremely low rates. The ratecard of *International Daily News* for its planned Rome stations offers 60 seconds for about £30.

But it may prove that the political power of the stations is more desirable than any profits they may make. All shades of political opinions are now homing in on the operators in an attempt to win their support, with the Christian Democrats and Communists to the fore.

At some stage there must surely be legislation limiting the number of stations allowed in each region and restraining the growth of the large media groups. Mondadori's careful positioning as a supplier of programmes rather than an

outright station owner could prove to be a wise move. Supporters of free enterprise broadcasting tend to say that if left to themselves TV stations would end up producing a balanced diet of programmes simply because that is what the public finally wants. The experience, at least of Italy, shows this not to be the case.

In Britain, it could be argued, of course that the viewing audience is more sophisticated because BBC has been in competition with a commercial network-controlled by state guidelines for more than 25 years.

But no one can deny the enterprise of the Italians. The latest money-maker is a variant on that ancient Roman custom—blackmail. Several radio and television stations have paid out money to stop others jamming their output with broadcasts on the same frequency.

The legality of the demands may be in doubt, but the jamming broadcasts themselves were perfectly legal. Anarchy may be a word which is much played with in Italy today, but in broadcasting it is a reality.

David Hewson

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Credits	12%
C. Hoare & Co	12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 or more, 9% over £50,000 10%, 11% over £100,000 12%.

Business Diary: The greening of Osaka

The video disc and its player are already being sold in the United States. Matsushita and JVC have set up three joint ventures with General Electric and Thorn EMI, and plan to launch a player developed by JVC on the American market later this year.

The price is expected to be between \$650 and \$700, more expensive than the RCA player but cheaper than the Philips one. It is hoped that the marriage of Japanese hardware and American and British software (the films to record on the disc) will prove a success. However, Japanese companies are much less confident about the video disc than they are about the VCR.

Many of the skills of Japanese electronics manufacturers are on display this summer at Portopia 81, a huge exhibition organized by the neighbouring city of Kobe to celebrate the completion of stage one of a land reclamation programme. By slicing the tops of mountains and dumping them in the sea just off its waterfront the city has created a 436 hectare artificial island to accommodate a container port, a hotel and a conference centre, housing a primary school, a hospital, shops and restaurants. A second artificial island, bigger than the first, is now under construction and has already attracted industrial investment.

Two prominent features of

Portopia 81, which looks forward to the twenty-first century, are the exploitation of natural energy such as the sun, wind and the tides, and the use of computers in the home. The roofs of the Matsushita and Sanyo pavilions are covered with solar panels which power their air conditioning systems. The Matsushita pavilion also relies on a wind tower with a propeller.

While its neighbour has been launching its great exhibition, Osaka has provided Japan with a new craze—tea-rooms or *Kissaten*—where the waitresses are clad in nothing but fishnet tights and an apron. They are the latest in a line of fashions for this type of establishment in Japan.

In the 1970s, coffee shops where customers could have records of classical music of their choice played were popular. These were followed by the "empty orchestra" fad, where you could sing your favourite songs against a recorded orchestral background.

The police are said to be keeping an eye on the spread of the new-style tea-rooms, which though they charge around £3.50, five times the normal rate for a cup of coffee, they do at least demonstrate that even in Osaka there is something that video will never replace.

Simon Scott-Plummer

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch	Gross	Yld	P/E	Full
76	39	Airsprung Group	63	—	4.7	8.3	10.8	14.3	
52	21	Armstrong & Rhodes	47	—	1.4	3.0	19.3	44.8	
200	92	Bardon Hill	200	—	9.7	4.9	7.5	12.8	
104	85	Deborah Services	102	—	5.5	5.4	5.0	9.6	
125	88	Frank Horsell	104	—	6.4	6.2	3.3	6.0	
110	39	Frederick Parker	63	—	1.7	2.7	27.4	—	
110	64	George Blair	64	—	3.1	4.8	—	—	
130	39	Jackson Group	108	—	7.0	6.5	3.4	7.7	
200	105	James Burroughs	130	—	8.7	6.7	10.7	10.7	
334	244	Robert Jenkins	315	—	31.3	9.9	—	—	
55	50	Strattons "A"	55	—	5.3	9.6	8.5	7.9	
224	196	Torday Limited	198	—	15.1	7.6	7.6	15.1	
23	8	Twillock Ltd	141	—	—	—	—	—	
90	68	Twillock 15% ULS	79	—	13.0	19.0	—	—	
56	35	Unilock Holdings	40	—	3.0	7.5	6.2	9.8	
103	81	Walter Alexander	103	—	5.7	5.3	5.7	8.1	
262	161	W. S. Yeates	233	—	13.1	8.2	14.0	9.7	

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

US interest hopes spur gilts

The market's belief that United States interest rates will shortly stabilize made for another strong performance in gilts.

Equities, relieved by the fact that the BP rights issue announcement was out of the way, also made progress, but with investors now awaiting dealings in the new shares, later today, business was described as thin.

The usual round of weekend press comment provided some interest, and electricals were sought after in a thin market ahead of some major company results due out this week.

The FT Index closed at its highest point for the day 2.9 higher at 544.3. The prospect of lower United States interest rates before long saw gilts on news that rise of up to 1.1 first thing, which surprised many jobbers. After going 1.1 higher at one point, prices paused for a spot of profit taking after lunch before recovering again after hours. Even news of further increases in United States prime rates by 1 per cent to 20 per cent made little impression. At the close, gilts were showing gains of 1.1 to 1.1 with shorts 2 better.

Leading industrialists spent another quiet day although prices generally were higher at the close. However, BOC International lost ground, falling 1p to 23p on news that 73 per cent of the convertible rights issue had been left with the underwriters. But elsewhere, ICI added 4p to 286p, Becton Dickinson 2p to 219p, Glaxo 2p to 366p, Unilever 2p to 580p, British Aerospace 3p to 223p and Courtauld 1p to 68p, but profit taking left Dunlop 2p easier at 78p.

BOC Oil Services made a bright debut on the USM climbing to 19p over the placing

pricing of 10p. Recent newcomer Star Computers reacted to comment, slipping 13p at 198p.

Shares of Harris & Sheldon were suspended at 32p amid talk of a bid from the Far East. An inquiry into recent share dealings has been called for.

Weekend comment was good for 3p on Hanson Trust at 286p, 6p on MEPC at 229p, 4p on Nippon at 180p, 6p on Sidlaw at 174p and 5p on Bossey & White at 178p.

In builders, comment put 5p on Rowlinson Construction at 51p, but the chairman's cautious remarks clipped 1p from George Wimpey at 115p as Blue Circle improved 4p to 180p and PC Henderson 7p to 146p.

House of Fraser at 180p, 6p on Sidlaw at 174p and 5p on Bossey & White at 178p.

Shares in the group, which are traded under the Stock Exchange rule 163 (2), dropped higher when the group launched back 10p to 133p after it announced a profits rise of less than 5 per cent to £756,000 pre-tax compared with a 97 per cent rise the previous year.

Fears of increased banking charges hit mail order groups with Gratlan 2p off at 92p, Freeman 2p lower at 115p and Fide Art Developments a similar figure at 110p.

Heavy buying was reported in electricals where some important trading news is expected this week. Rascal hardened 11p to 376p and Plessey 7p to 330p while Ferranti held steady at 515p, all ahead of figures.

Small profits expansion lifted Sanderstead Strathclyde 21p to 101p and Davenport 21p to 101p and Walker & Staff was unchanged at 23p, but James Cropper relapsed 5p to 133p after a profits reduction. Losses slipped 10p from Applied Computer Techniques at 62p. Powell Duffryn jumped 9p to 286p ahead of figures on Friday, while recovery hopes boosted Jones Woodhead 6p to 38p.

Trusthouse Forte added 3p to 158p after conceding defeat over its battle with Savoy. "A" down 5p at 186p. Elsewhere, speculation in the market lifted Nott's Manufacturing 6p to 143p and Tern Consultancy 14p to 62p while profit taking after a good run wiped 5p from Polly Peck at 355p and 3p from Cornhill Dresses at 179p.

Traded options: Dealers reported only quiet conditions with only 1,104 contracts written. Of these 624 dominated proceedings with 199 calls.

Traditional options also experienced quiet conditions with calls in Keith Collins Petroleum on 31p and Royal Bank of Scotland on 171p.

Oils continued to benefit from renewed interest, with BP 2p higher at 328p ahead of going ex-rights today. Shell closed 6p dearer and comment boosted Sovereign 25p at 344p.

Equity turnover on June 19 was £118,509m (14,003 bargains). Active stocks yesterday.

It now appears that the small shareholders of European Ferries have failed to take up their entitlement from the recent one-for-one rights issue, with the price falling another 4p to 46p yesterday. At this level the shares are looking cheap to many of the institutions with only 30p down and the balance due on July 6.

according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Polly Peck, Shell, Plessey, Thorn EMI and BP.

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Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
last or fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Admiral Computer (F)	7,151(5.56)	0.70(0.72)	5.07(5.35)	0.3(-)	14/8	0.5(0.5)
Admiral Stridale (F)	64,272(7.3)	6.31(5.87)	10.4(11.4)	3(3)	17/8	4(4)
Admiral (F)	6,541(10.19)	0.25(0.37)	0.7(1.01)	1.5(2.5)	12/8	2.2(4.0)
Admiral (F)	15,021(13.7)	0.1(0.88)	—	5.67(4.9)	12/8	5.67(4.9)
Davenport Kilmory (F)	—	0.12(0.8)	—	2.7(1.2)	12/8	2.5(2.5)
J Grant (East) (F)	13,913(13.7)	0.56(1.06)	14.9(20.3)	2.0(2.0)	12/8	—
Great Nthm Inv. (I)	—	2.23(2.59)	—	1.35(1.35)	11/8	2.6(5.2)
Kraft Foods (F)	1,321(1.53)	0.07(0.55)	5.94(5.41)	—	—	—
Walker & Staff (F)	2,321(3.29)	0.07(0.198)	2.34(6.27)	—	—	—
Whitehead (F)	29,410(1.4)	1.71(1.57)	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = Loss.

Briefly

James Grant (East): Turnover for the year to January 31 was £13.9m (413.7p). Earnings per share were 14.5p (20.3p). Final was 14p gross (same). The chairman cannot see any grounds for optimism this year.

Thos Locker (Holdings): Chairman Mr J. J. Locker in his annual statement says that to make a forecast for the current year is exceptionally difficult. There are still no signs of an upturn in the United Kingdom's economy. The overseas companies have started the year with strong order books and the outlook for them is promising. Providing there is an improvement in the United Kingdom market within the next few months, the result for the year should be reasonable.

Kraft Productions: No dividend Winterbottom Energy Trust: The net asset value per ordinary share at close of business on June 19 was 73.5p after deduction of prior charges at 75.1p after deduction of prior charges at market value.

(same). Group turnover for the year to December 31 was £13.9m (413.7p). Earnings per share were 14.5p (20.3p). Final was 14p gross (same). The chairman cannot see any grounds for optimism this year.

London Securities Plc: After further acceptance of its offer, Harris & Crosfield now holds 186,818 shares and has a total interest at June 22 in 14,659,642 shares (92.08 per cent).

Alcove Streamlines: Both divisions continue to be affected by the current recession, particularly the production section of the manufacturing division. The board remains confident that progress will be resumed when the economy recovers from the recession.

Walker and Staff Holdings (engineering supplies): On turnover down from £3.29m to £2.92m in the year to March 31, 1981, pretax profits dropped from £198,000 to £70,000. CCA pretax profit: £50,000. Total dividend unchanged at 1.92p gross.

Great Northern Investment Trust: Pretax revenue for half-year to May 31, 1981, £2.85m (2.85p). Interim payment: 2.85p gross (same). Board intends to maintain final at 6.57p gross.

Development costs slow ACT

High expenditure on new systems slowed profits growth last year at Applied Computer Techniques (ACT), the Birmingham software group.

Shares in the group, which are traded under the Stock Exchange rule 163 (2), dropped higher when the group launched back 10p to 133p after it announced a profits rise of less than 5 per cent to £756,000 pre-tax compared with a 97 per cent rise the previous year.

In line with the forecast an £800,000 rights issue a year ago, a final dividend of 0.47p takes the total for the year to 0.7 gross.

Mr Lindsey Bury, chairman, said yesterday that profits growth would have been much higher but for continued spending on software to be used with the new ACT series 800 micro computer system. In addition, the second half was hit by closure costs of marginal activities associated with ACT's 1979 takeover of Computer Proof.

Mr Bury says that the group's financial position remains extremely strong, with net cash balances of £800,000. Although he is cautious about the first half of this year, he says that medium-term prospects remain very good.

ACT shares were issued in March 1979 at a price of 135p and stand at almost three times that value, allowing for a two-for-one scrip issue in November.

More than a third of the group's sales are made by its Richmond division, with the rest available for sale to wholesale customers.

At the same time, ACT is in the process of building up its lucrative mail order business, which trades under the name of the Privilege Collection.

USM quotation for Acis postponed for a week

By Michael Clark

Charterhouse Japhet has had to postpone the placing of its latest candidate for the Unlisted Securities Market, Acis Jewellery, following a technical hitch.

Acis, in which Charterhouse holds 45 per cent, was due to announce on Wednesday the placing of £5m, 10p shares, or roughly 40 per cent of the company. But a last minute meeting to decide on a placing price, capital structure and profits forecast broke up last night after all parties had decided on a postponement.

Back in 1974, Mr Garson Kesner, then a qualified accountant, decided to enter the jewellery trade and bought for a nominal sum the retail interests of Acis.

Through his shop-in-shop system he set about building up the group's retail outlets, renting floor space in prime sites

from already established stores. At present the group has 64 retail outlets, with three at Fulham Road, The Market, Covent Garden and Wood Green Shopping City, catering for the higher-priced range of women's jewellery. The rest cater for products within the £2 to £75 range.

Mr Kesner maintains that this system cuts down on group overheads and enables much needed income to be channelled into the design and manufacture of jewellery.

More than a third of the group's sales are made by its Richmond division, with the rest available for sale to wholesale customers.

At the same time, ACT is in the process of building up its lucrative mail order business, which trades under the name of the Privilege Collection.

Second-half loss for J Cropper

James Cropper, the Cumbria-based paper manufacturer, saw its pretax profit slump from £887,000 to just £100,000 in the year to March 29, 1981. And this was in spite of group turnover expanding from £13.71m to £15.02m. The total dividend, on a gross basis, is being cut from 5.71p to 3.57p. This means that Cropper made a loss in the second half-year, but it has now returned to profit and has a full order book. Prospects for the remainder of the year are better than last year, the board reports.

Business appointments

Racal-Dana operations chief named

Mr Paul Francis has been appointed as director of operations of Racal-Dana Instruments.

Mr Alan R. Titchener has been appointed as the new chairman of the Channel Tunnel Association.

Mr H. F. Baur, at present a director of BILTON (UK), has been appointed managing director of Bilton Metals & Ores International in the Hague. On taking up this new appointment Mr Baur will cease to be a director of Bilton (UK).

Lord Birdwood and Lord Kilmarlock have become vice-presidents of The Institute of Sales and Marketing Management.

Mr Patrick Gee has been appointed managing director of Roadchef. Mr Gee succeeds founding managing director Mr Clive D. Lindley, who remains chairman of the company, part of the LCI Group. Mr Gee remains financial director and company secretary of the LCI Group. Mr Mike Smell, formerly Roadchef's chief accountant, becomes the new company secretary.

Mr F. W. Brown has been appointed director of BSR.

Mr P. W. Sharman, director and chief general manager of Norwich Union Group has been appointed chairman of Norwich Winterthur Holdings.

Mr John Chesworth has been appointed a director of Bodycote International.

Mr Gordon Crawford and Mr R. Derek Webb, directors of Cable Belt are to retire. Mr Crawford will continue his association with the company as a part-time consultant.

Mr John Paisley and Mr John O'Connor will be admitted to the partnership of McCaughan O'Keefe & Company, Australian stock and share brokers. Mr Paisley will remain as London manager.

Mr T. G. J. Lewis has become chief executive officer of the Royal Arsenal Cooperative Society, succeeding Mr J. H. Walker, who has retired.

Mr Alan A. Carr, manager of the Fenchurch Street branch of Lloyds Bank, has been appointed honorary treasurer and a director of the City Arts Trust.

Harris & Sheldon suspended for bid talks

Warwickshire group Harris & Sheldon, whose interests range from Antler luggage to shotguns, kitchen units and lifts, is holding friendly talks with an unnamed potential bidder. The shares were suspended at 32p yesterday, capitalising the group at £12.7m, pending an announcement.

Mr James Miller, chairman, has asked merchant bank S. G. Warburg to look into two call options written in the stock last week. Mr Miller said that this was an unusual event for Harris & Sheldon, and its timing caused both parties in the talks some concern. Mr Robert Davenport, of Warburg, confirmed last night that the group may seek a Stock Exchange investigation into the circumstances surrounding these call options. Harris & Sheldon's shares have been dull recently, but yesterday they gained 2p to 32p, before being suspended in the interest of shareholders.

The bid talks would not have been revealed yesterday but for the concern over the call options. Mr Miller and Mr Davenport last night refused to comment on suggestions that the potential bidder may be a Hongkong-based group. Talks began in earnest about a week ago, after an approach to Harris & Sheldon.

A more detailed announcement should be available within the next ten days, Mr Miller said yesterday. Harris & Sheldon's first half ends on June 30, and the coming announcement will probably give an indication of how trading is going. Mr Davenport said. In 1980 pretax profits dipped from £4.52m to £3.11m, although sales were nearly £3m higher at £48.3m. Most of the group's profits came from its capital goods businesses. Gross dividends of 4.3p were paid in 1980.

Harris & Sheldon has interests in property investment and management and is involved in a wide range of industrial activities. There was speculation in the market yesterday that its sound asset base may have attracted the bid attention. At December 31, 1980, its assets per share were 56.6p, well above both yesterday's 52p suspension price.

Britannic Assurance, which has 10.25 per cent of the group's shares, was taken by surprise by yesterday's bid and preferred not to comment.

Whitecroft cuts payout as profits tumble



Mr John Tavaré, chairman of Whitecroft.

Manchester textiles and engineering group Whitecroft failed to live up to earlier expectations in the second half and left the group with full-year profits to March 31 of just £1.73m before tax, compared with £4.57m a year earlier. Dividends total 5.5p gross, half the 1979-80 level. The shares dipped 2p to 64p yesterday.

After the first-half profit of £875,000, Mr John Tavaré, chairman, said the group expected to do better in the second six months of the year. But then fresh cuts in public spending hit its building and engineering supplies division hard and put paid to the group's hopes. The division's profits fell from £2.21m in 1979-80 to just £476,000 before tax.

Meanwhile, textiles were hit on two fronts, with doubled American imports of finished sheering hitting commissioned finished textiles, and poor demand for industrial textiles,

especially in the automotive and general engineering industries. However, Edward Hall, Europe's leading cotton wool manufacturer, did well. Overall,

textiles contributed £1.03m pre-tax, down from £2.27m.

Moortie Electrical made fresh progress, but Randall's has but closed. Extraordinary debits of £421m include its costs, but largely reflect the cost of cutting down Thomas Ryder before selling off the business separately from the buildings and equipment. Group engineering profits of £1.82m, against £1.63m, were struck after losses of £275,000 from mRyder before its sale.

Group sales were £89.5m down from £101.5m. Interest costs were slightly lower at £2.22m against £2.71m. Borrowings have dropped £1m to £13m since the year-end and have fallen steadily since their January 1980 peak of £17m. Mr Tavaré said yesterday. There is no sign of any improvement in Whitecroft's markets. Internal improvements are expected to allow whether profits this year.

Wimpey house sales slower

Sir Reginald Smith, chairman of George Wimpey, told shareholders at the annual meeting that although sales of private houses were buoyant in the early months of the year they had been rather less so in recent weeks.

Worldwide interest rates and inflation had been steadily rising, creating difficult trading conditions for an international contractor. Generally, the recession at home and abroad had led to increasing pressure on margins. Since it was not group policy to chase unprofitable work which could only store up problems for the future, work booked in recent months had been running at a somewhat lower level than in the same months of 1980.

Looking ahead, he was confident of the group's long-term prospects and its ability to participate fully in the economic upturn when it came.

Another US deal for Laird Group

London-based Laird Group reports its second takeover in the United States in less than a year. It has bought Amesbury Industries for \$4.2m (about £2.13m). Of this, \$3.6m was paid on completion and the

rest will be paid early next year. Amesbury makes woven pile weatherseal for windows and doors. It has a significant share of the United States market. Last October Laird bought New York Twist Drill for \$52.5m.

Warning from Whitbread chief

Current levels of trade in the brewing industry are again significantly below those of the previous year, to such an extent that, over the two-year period, it would appear that the beer market could decline by as much as 8 to 9 per cent, Mr C. H. Tidbury, the chairman of Whitbread, says in his annual report.

Whitbread is continuing to adjust its levels of activity to these reduced volumes, while protecting its own margins.

Outlook difficult at Continho

The outcome for the first four months of 1981 at Continho Caro, suppliers of steel and chemicals, was indifferent and the group will have to struggle to equal the 1980 results, let alone repeat the record results of 1979, it says.

BSG International expects small profit

Mr Thomas Cannon, told shareholders at BSG International that as the new chairman he was pleased to be able to report a reversal of the loss of 1980. The first quarter of 1981 had produced a small profit after interest charges and this trend had continued for the first five months of the year.

The board was confident of showing a small profit during the first half of the year.

Rise at Property Partnerships

Property Partnerships, which owns and develops commercial property for investment, has lifted profits from £667,000 to £737,000 in the year to March 31 and has made a final dividend payment of 7.1p gross. Weatherall Green and Smith has valued the group's investment and hotel properties held at March 31 at £14m.



THE SHIRES LOVE OUR ALES

Lancashire and Hampshire, of course. Durham and Kent, too. Yorkshire and Devon, naturally. Although a national company, Whitbread have never stopped being a local brewer.

Today we have many local breweries throughout Britain producing beers to suit the local taste. And can offer you a choice of no less than forty different ales. From nationally-known names like Trophy Best Bitter and Tankard to local beers such as Pompey Royal, Flowers Original and Welsh Bitter.

How did it all begin? As a company, we learned a simple lesson from Samuel Whitbread back in 1742. He had a lot of competition when he started out as a brewer in the City of London. And became pre-eminent by producing the taste people appreciated most at the time.

We merely extended the principle by continuing to brew a wide range of ales across the whole country. As a result, even at a time of recession, the company remains as successful and competitive as Samuel Whitbread would have wished.

OUR RESULTS

Year to 28th February, 1981

	£000's	Year to 28.2.81	Year to 1.3.80
Turnover		782,148	720,259
Profit before taxation		66,388	61,813
Ordinary dividends		16,885	14,648
Retained in the business		49,503	39,654
Earnings per share		22.72p	21.56p
Dividend per share		6.70p	6.00p
Dividend cover		3.39	3.59
Added value per full-time employee		£11,082	£9,606

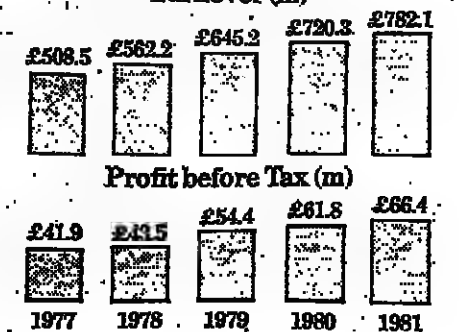
WEATHERING THE STORM

Points from the Report by the Chairman, Mr Charles Tidbury, for the year ended 28th February, 1981.

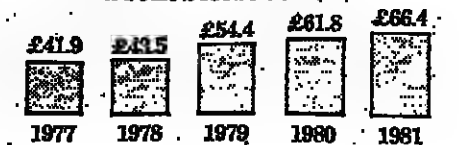
Profits before tax increased by 7.4%, and turnover by 8.9%. I think these results are satisfactory under the prevailing conditions, but they must be measured against an inflation rate of almost 17%. Beer sales were roughly in line with the industry's, which were estimated to be about 5% down. This drop in volume occurred across all trade sectors, but within that our local ales continued to perform well. Lager accounted for an increasing share of total beer sales. Current levels of trade in the brewing industry are again significantly below those of the previous year. However, our people have shown great skill, initiative and resourcefulness this year, which gives me confidence that we are coming through the present recession successfully.

FIVE YEAR RECORD

Turnover (m)



Profit before Tax (m)



James Cropper & Company Limited

The following are our unaudited preliminary figures for the year ending 28th March 1981.

	1981	1980
	£000	£000
Turnover	15,022	13,716
Trading Profit	580	1,148
Interest	480	261
Profit before Taxation	100	887
Advance Corporation Tax	17	77
Profit after Taxation	83	860
Dividend: 4% on 1,600,000 Shares of 25p each	16	24 (6%)
6% on 1,600,000 Shares of 25p each (proposed)	24	40 (10%)
Balance Transferred to Reserves	43	796

Note: The Company has now returned to profit after a loss in the second half of last year and has a full order book at present. The recent fall in the value of sterling against the dollar will however affect margins until raw material cost increases can be recovered in selling prices. The new No. 4 Machine is now running satisfactorily and the prospects for the rest of the year are better than last year.

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[illegible]

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01-542 2178 (even)

JAMES W. WILSON, Chgo. road in
 crushed malpaisite, 2 mils.
 Public transport, c.h. S. & C.
 sec. Inc. 01-586 2325 after 2
 (CO

Continued on page 24)

Judges must hear controversial adoptions

IN RE C. (A MINOR)
The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Ormrod, Lord Justice Justice Kee and Mr Justice Bingham) is allowing an appeal by prospective adopters from the decision of Judge Barr sitting at Uxbridge County Court who refused to make an adoption order in respect of a minor, said that where the issue of dispensing with consent arises, it is a potential controversy about it, the matter must be dealt with in a proper judicial hearing.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD said that the adopters, Mr and Mrs C, sought an adoption order in respect of the minor who was the son of Mr C and Mrs C, sought an adoption order in respect of the minor, said that where the issue of dispensing with consent arises, it is a potential controversy about it, the matter must be dealt with in a proper judicial hearing.

The matter was referred to the judge who conducted a very informal hearing. No evidence was heard and the judge simply declined to make the order. No note was taken of his judgment – it did not seem likely that he

And written a letter to the court setting out her reasons for not consenting. That letter was read out by the adopters.

Where the issue of dispensing with consent arises and there is a potential controversy about it, the matter must be dealt with in a proper judicial hearing. And, everything must be done, opportunities to cross-examine must be given and a proper note made of the proceedings so that the Court of Appeal, if asked to reconsider the judge's decision,

[illegible]



8 King Street, St James's
London SW1Y 6QT. Tel: 01-839 9060
Telex 916429 Telegrams CHRISTIART
London SW1

Today, Tuesday, 23 June at 10.30 a.m.
FINE OBJECTS OF ART, CONTINENTAL AND
ENGLISH MINIATURES. Catalogue 13.
Tuesday, 23 June at 11 a.m.
LATE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY CONTINENTAL
DRAWINGS. Catalogue 14.
Wednesday, 24 June at 11 a.m.
IMPORTANT ENGLISH, SCOTTISH AND CONTINENTAL
SILVER. Catalogue 15.
Wednesday, 24 June at 11 a.m.
MODERN SPORTING GUNS AND VINTAGE FIRE-
ARMS. Catalogue 16.
Thursday, 25 June at 10.30 a.m.
FINE CLARET AND WHITE BORDEAUX. Catalogue
17.
Thursday, 25 June at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
IMPORTANT ENGLISH FURNITURE AND TAPES-
TRIED OBJECTS OF ART, EASTERN RUGS AND
CARPETS. Catalogue 18.
Friday, 26 June at 10.30 a.m.
IMPORTANT ENGLISH PICTURES. Catalogue 19.
Monday, 29 June at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
FINE DUTCH DELFT, CONTINENTAL POTTERY AND
ITALIAN MAJOLICA. Catalogue 20.
Monday, 29 June at 10.30 a.m.
IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN PAINTINGS AND
SCULPTURE. Catalogue 21.
Tuesday, 30 June at 10.30 a.m.
JAPANESE WORKS OF ART. Catalogue 22.
Tuesday, 30 June at 11 a.m.
IMPORTANT ENGLISH DRAWINGS AND WATER-
COLOURS. Catalogue 23.
Tuesday, 30 June at 11 a.m.
IMPRESSIONIST AND MODERN WATERCOLOURS
AND DRAWINGS. Catalogue 24.
Tuesday, 30 June at 2.30 p.m.
CONTEMPORARY ART. Catalogue 25.
Late night viewing Monday, 29 June until 7 p.m.

SUNDAY VIEW
Christie's King Street will be open on Sunday, 28
June, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for a special view of
Impressionist and Modern Paintings, Drawings,
Watercolours, Sculpture and Contemporary Art.
Important English Drawings and Watercolours and
important French Furniture, Objects of Art and
Tapestries.

OVERSEAS SALES

IN HOLLAND
AT ROKIN 85, AMSTERDAM
Thursday, 25 June at 10 a.m.
JEWELLERY, SILVER, EUROPEAN AND ASIATIC
WORKS OF ART. Catalogue 26.
All catalogue prices are post paid.
All sales subject to the conditions printed in the cata-
logue.
For details of sales at Christie's South Kensington, please
contact 25 Old Brompton Road, London, S.W.7. Tel.
(01) 581 2231.

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164-166 Bath Street, Glasgow.
Tel (041) 332 8134

AT 4 DRUMMOND PLACE, EDINBURGH
Thursday, 2 July at 11 a.m.
IMPORTANT VICTORIAN AND MODERN SCOTTISH
PAINTINGS, WATERCOLOURS AND DRAWINGS.
CLOTHING WORKS FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE
LATE SIR WILLIAM MACGILL, F.R.S.A.
Thursday, 2 July at 6 p.m.
PAINTINGS, WATERCOLOURS AND DRAWINGS BY
THE LATE SIR WILLIAM MACGILL, F.R.S.A.
FROM THE ARTIST'S STUDIO, SOLD BY ORDER OF
THE EXECUTORS.
Catalogue for both the above sales £5.50 post paid.

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INTERNATIONAL LTD.
PHILATELIC AUCTIONEERS
30 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JZ
Tel: (01) 839 4034 Telex 915410

IN LONDON
Tuesday, 23 July at 10.30 a.m.
BRITISH AFRICA WITH ASCENSION, MAFFKING,
EAST AFRICA, NATAL, RHODESIA, ST. HELENA,
SOUTH AFRICA AND ORANGE FREE STATE.
Wednesday, 23 July at 10.30 a.m.
BRITISH EMPIRE WITH KARE COVERS, AUSTRALIA
INCLUDING TASMANIA, FALKLANDS AND
TRINIDAD.

IN BOURNEMOUTH
AT THE AUCTION HOUSE, 39 POOLE HILL
Wednesday, 1 July at 1.30 p.m. and Thursday, 2 July
at 10 a.m.
GENERAL SALE WITH GREAT BRITAIN, BRITISH
EMPIRE, FINE CHINA AND U.S.A.
Thursday, 6 August at 9.30 a.m. and 1.45 p.m.
EUROPE WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,
BRITISH EMPIRE WITH BRITISH EAST AFRICA,
CANADA, WEST INDIES, NEW SOUTH WALES, ALSO
THAILAND.
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COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

**COMPAGNIE ARABIANE DE
FINANCE EN BOLIVIE S.A.**
(THE ARABIAN FINANCE CO. IN
BOLIVIA COMPANY)
Notice is hereby given that the
SIXTH ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING of the above-named Com-
pany will be held at the Office of the
Company, 26, rue Cassagne,
Geneva, at 11.30 a.m. on
Friday the 3rd of July 1981 for the
following purposes:
To receive and consider the
annual Accounts and Balance
Sheet for 1980; the Report of the
Directors and the Report of the
Auditors on the same; and to
transact the business arising there-
from.
Holders of shares in the Com-
pany are entitled to attend and
vote at the meeting in person or
by proxy. The proxy must be
signed by the shareholder or by
the holder of a duly signed and
certified copy of the share cer-
tificate. The transfer Book of the Com-
pany will be closed from the 2nd
day of July to the 2nd day of
August inclusive.
The Balance Sheet and Profit and
Loss Account with the Report of
the Directors thereon, as well as
a Directors' report, are at the
office of the Company, as from
date. Details of the 23rd day of June 1981
by the order of the Board
Claude J. B. Secretary

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WOLSEY STREET,
IPSWICH.
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(6 lines)

SHORT NOTICE SALE - Thursday,
June 25th, 10 a.m.
Large quantities of walnut,
mahogany and oak furnishings,
30 breakfast bookcases, many
cabinets, 18 table clocks,
PAIR OF 70th EMPIRE WALNUT
LIBRARY BOOKCASES, 6 sets of
good Georgian & Victorian
chairs, line walnut bureau book-
case, 6 card tables, micro-
scopes, boxes & caddies, pic-
tures, antique weapons, & marble
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of sale. Illustrated catalogue £5
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Tel: (01) 493 8080

Tuesday 23rd June at 10.30 am
IMPORTANT PRIMITIVE WORKS OF ART
Cat. (177 illus.) £6

Tuesday 23rd June at 11 am and 2.30 pm
FINE CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN
Cat. (177 illus.) £6.50

Tuesday 23rd June at 2.30 pm
AMERICAN INDIAN, PRE-COLUMBIAN,
SOUTH EAST ASIAN, OCEANIC AND
AFRICAN WORKS OF ART Cat. £1.50

Tuesday 23rd June at 7 pm
RICHLY IMPORTANT 19th CENTURY
EUROPEAN PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS
Cat. (110 illus.) £2

Wednesday 24th June at 11 am and 2.30 pm
IMPORTANT 19th CENTURY EUROPEAN
PAINTINGS Cat. (167 illus.) £10

Thursday 25th June at 11 am
BRITISH ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS AND
WATERCOLOURS 1666-1690 Cat. (82 illus.) £3

Thursday 25th June at 2.30 pm
ARCHITECTURAL AND DECORATIVE
DRAWINGS AND IMPORTANT 19th CENTURY
EUROPEAN DRAWINGS AND
WATERCOLOURS Cat. (266 illus.) £6.50

Friday 26th June at 11 am
GOOD CONTINENTAL FURNITURE AND
TAPESTRIES Cat. (98 illus.) £6

Monday 29th June at 2 pm
TIBETAN, NEPALESE INDIAN AND
SOUTH-EAST ASIAN ART Cat. (151 illus.) £4

Tuesday 30th June at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
CONTINENTAL POTTERY AND PORCELAIN
Cat. (282 illus.) £6.50

Tuesday 30th June at 8 pm
IMPORTANT IMPRESSIONIST AND
MODERN PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURE
Cat. (220 illus.) £10

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Glasgow (041) 221 4817; Harrogate (0423) 501466; Jersey (0534) 43268; Slane Droghda 24401; Taunton (0823) 88441

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New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA
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VALUABLE PRINTED BOOKS Cat. (11 illus.) £2.50

Thursday 25th June at 11 am
PRINTED BOOKS Cat. 50p

Monday 29th June at 11 am and 2.30 pm
ATLAS, MAPS AND PRINTED BOOKS
Cat. £1.50

Conduit Street
Sotheby Parkes Bernet & Co., 26 Conduit Street,
London W1R 9TB Tel: (01) 493 8080

Fast Sale Service: a new programme of weekly sales

Wednesday 24th June at 2.30 pm and following day
at 11 am
DECORATIVE ITEMS INCLUDING SILVER
AND WORKS OF ART Cat. 25p

Belgravia
Sotheby's Belgravia, 19 Motcomb Street,
London SW1X 8LB Tel: (01) 235 4311

Tuesday 23rd June at 11 am
FINE VICTORIAN PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS
AND WATERCOLOURS Cat. (328 illus.) £3

Wednesday 24th June at 10.30 am
SCULPTURE Cat. (110 illus.) £2

Wednesday 24th June at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
FINE AND RARE WINES, SPIRITS AND
VINTAGE PORT Cat. £1

Thursday 25th June at 10 am
GOOD ENGLISH AND FOREIGN SILVER AND
PLATED WARES, OBJECTS OF VERTU,
CHESS SETS AND EUROPEAN IVORIES
Cat. (350 illus.) £5

Friday 26th June at 11 am
CAMERAS, VIEWERS AND OPTICAL
AMUSEMENTS Cat. (41 illus.) £1

Chester, Cheshire

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This week, Thursday
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Loch Lomond

Rosdhu House, Nr. Luss, Loch Lomond
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by kind permission of Sir Ivor Colquhoun
of Luss, Bt.

Monday 29th June at 8.30 pm
FINE AND INEXPENSIVE WINES, SPIRITS
AND VINTAGE PORT Cat. £1

Tuesday 30th June at 6 pm
SCOTTISH AND ENGLISH SILVER AND
WEMYSS WARE

and at 9 pm
SCOTTISH AND SPORTING PAINTINGS,
DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS
Cat. (175 illus.) £4

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This week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
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SILVER AND JEWELLERY

Torquay, Devon

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Wednesday 24th July at 10 am
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Catalogues may be purchased at our salerooms or by post
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268/AT. Applications to be re-
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Applicants must be graduates with upper second
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Phillips

Tuesday, 23 June, 11 a.m.

FURNITURE, CARPETS AND WORKS OF ART
Not to be offered before 12 noon.
PEWTER AND METALWARE

Tuesday, 23 June, 2 p.m.
ETHNOGRAPHICAL ITEMS AND ANTIQUITIES

Wednesday, 24 June, 11 a.m.
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL CERAMICS AND
GLASS

Wednesday, 24 June, 12 noon
PHOTOGRAPHY

Viewing: Day prior 9 a.m.-4.30 p.m. and morning
of sale until 11 a.m.

Illustrated Catalogue 80p by post.

Thursday, 25 June, 11 a.m.
POSTAGE, STAMPS: GENERAL SALE

Friday, 26 June, 11 a.m.
SILVER AND PLATE

Illustrated Catalogue 75p by post.

Monday, 29 June, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, CARPETS AND OBJECTS

Monday, 29 June, 11 a.m.
FINE WATERCOLOURS AND DRAWINGS
Illustrated Catalogue £2.75 by post.

Tuesday, 30 June, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, CARPETS AND WORKS OF ART

Tuesday, 30 June, 2.30 p.m.
IMPORTANT JEWELS

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Including an Important Collection of Edwardian
and Art Deco items, a Long Aquamarine and
Diamond Necklace, a Fine Sapphire and Diamond
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(Catalogues—Price 50p)

Wednesday, 1st July, at 1 p.m.

The Collection of
ENGLISH MILLED COINS

in gold and silver
formed by the late Benjamin E. Wyand

(Illustrated Catalogue (6 Plates)—Price £1)

Tuesday, 7th July, at 10.30 a.m.

and
Wednesday, 8th July, at 10 a.m.

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in gold, silver and bronze

(Illustrated Catalogue (7 Plates)—Price £1)

THE FRED PRIDMORE COLLECTION of British Colonial
Coins (Part I—the Americas, Africa and Europe) will be
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Catalogues for other Sales of

HOLIDAYS & VILLAS

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Inclusive villa holidays for 2-10 per
Greek Islands of
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No extras whatsoever
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Lots of availability July/Aug
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PERSONAL CHOICE



Nine-year-old Annie Gelpy with a playful pair of serval cubs which are being looked after by C.A.R.E., a charity that finds homes for unwanted wild animals (see report, p. 14).

FACE-LIFT (BBC 1 9.25 pm) is an investigation by Harold Williams into the cosmetic surgery boom. He talks to the men and women who believe that with a £1,000 or more they are able to buy a new face, body or even persona. Included in the programme are interviews with surgeons themselves who tout their trade in the advertising columns of the national dailies. Not all of them do that, however. Some have a business manager who in one case, travels the country following up replies from his £100,000 a year advertising campaign. In whichever part of the country the client lives he will sub-contract the operation to a local surgeon, one of a chain up and down the country. The medical profession is becoming increasingly anxious about the spread of these clinics, the low standard of work (it is estimated that 20 per cent of patients are dissatisfied with the results of their operation) and post-operative care. The programme also contrasts NHS cosmetic surgery with that of the private clinics.

S.S. 1932-1945 (ITV 10.30 pm) is a documentary about the growth of Hitler's racial personal army that created havoc in Europe even during the dying days of World War Two. To make this film Andrew Molloy has interviewed past members of the organization and some of its victims. It is a frightening history of oppression. During its existence it is estimated that some twenty-five million civilians, including four million Jews, were murdered by them on Hitler's orders. Included in the programme is a great deal of previously unseen film footage illustrating the methods adopted by this army. The third part of the documentary is certainly not for the squeamish. There are some horrific scenes from the concentration camps, both during and after the war, and of mass shootings after the victims had dug their own graves. It is a programme that visually shocks but not for the sake of it, and is of historical great interest. Anthony Valentine in the narrator but elsewhere there is the annoying broken English translations of the interviews in German.

NO HANDICAP (Radio 4 4.15 pm) is the first of two programmes in which two musicians, both successful in their own field, talk about how they overcame physical disability to become the success they are. This afternoon rock star Ian Dury discusses polio which immobilized him in early life and seemingly put paid to any chance of him performing in the violently physical world of rock concerts, a world in which only a few able-bodied characters have learnt to survive. In the light of his illness, the title of one of his most successful songs - 'Reasons to be Cheerful' - becomes all the more pertinent. Next week violinist Itzhak Perlman tells of his fight to overcome the same disability.

SYMBOLS KEY: (STEREO); *BLACK AND WHITE; (R) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Diogenes: Restoring the Balance. 7.05 Milk Bottles. 7.30 Continental Arks. Closedown at 7.55.
9.05 For Schools: Colleges: French conversation. 9.35 The Brendan Voyage. 9.58 Captain Game. 11.00 With the Staff of Eristos. 11.17 Television Club. Closedown at 11.37.
12.55 pm Pöbel y Cwm: Welsh serial. 1.30 The Plumps (r). 1.45 News.
1.55 Wimbledon 81: Live coverage of the Ladies' Singles first round matches being played on the Centre and Number One courts. There is also live coverage on BBC 2 at 2.15 and highlights on BBC 1 and 10.20 on BBC 2.
4.20 Play School: For the under-fives (shown earlier on BBC 2). 4.45 The Record Breakers. Roy Castle and Norma McWhorter delve into the book of records to find some more superlatives (r). 5.10 John Craven's Newsround. Intelligence presented news for young people. 5.15 Ask Aspel. Mike presents more requested clips from recent BBC television programmes and has in the studio to answer questions on the incredible inventor of things extraordinary, Wilf Lunn. 5.40 News read by Kenneth Kendall. 5.55 Regional news magazines.
6.20 Wimbledon 81: Highlights from today's first round matches in the Ladies' Singles and Championship introduced by Harry Carpenter. 7.15 Medical Express. The first of a new series presented by Hilary Hanson and Chris Serle that looks at everything that medicine can offer. 7.45 Film: The Alpha Capers (1973) starring Henry Fonda, John Hagen and Leonard Nimoy. The usually upright Mr. Fonda plays a forcibly-retired protection officer who gangs up with some of his former parolees to rob a heavily armed and heavily guarded million dollars. 9.00 News read by Kenneth Kendall.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Le Corbusier: Villa Savoye. 7.05 Man-made Macromolecules. 7.30 The study of drawings. Closedown at 7.55.
10.30 Supermarket: Staying on Top in the title of this last programme in the series for Supervisors in Industry (r). Interval at 10.55.
11.00 Play School: Today's story for the under-fives is The King Who Liked Chocolate. Starring Julia Michaels and the presenters are Sarah Long and Johnny Ball. Closedown at 11.25.
2.00 pm You and Me: For the very young (r).
2.15 Wimbledon 81: Live coverage of the first round matches in the Ladies' Singles Championship being played on the Centre and Number One courts introduced by Harry Carpenter. 7.30 News including a sub-edited synopsis for the hard-of-hearing. 7.40 Images of War. Three cameramen recall their experiences of filming action at sea.
8.00 International Dressage: from Goodwood House. Commentary by Dorian Williams and Joyce Lupton on the Incheape Championships which have attracted riders from all over Europe and Canada as well as Britain.
8.30 The Theatre Quiz: Two teams with a theatrical background compete against each other to see which of them knows the most about their

Thames

9.30 am For Schools: Simple mathematics; 9.47 What we see when the tide goes down; 10.04 How to write a report; 10.30 The movement of immigrant labour; 11.05 Mathematics for seven to nine-year-olds; 11.22 The job of a health visitor; 11.39 An interview with Peter Bain.
12.00 Paperplay: Susan Stranks shows her friends how to make jar decorations (r). 12.10 pm Pippins (r). 12.30 The Sullivan. Drama serial about an Australian family during World War Two.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 About Britain. Brent Sadler reports from Weston-super-Mare on how the local council attracts holidaymakers despite the risk of rainy weather. 2.00 After No. 16. A Summer Season. The pros and cons of losing weight (r). 2.45 The Spoils of War. The final episode in the serial about how two Northern families come to terms with life after the Second

9.25 Facilité: Harold Williams reports on the Cosmetic Surgery Business (see Personal Choice).
10.15 Goodbye Darling: Barbara by James Mitchell. After twenty years of marriage Barbara realises she has been taken for granted by her husband and her three grown-up children. What will she do to make them aware of her feelings? Faith Brook is Barbara.
10.35 International Athletics: Highlights from the first day of the match between Great Britain, West Germany and Poland from Crystal Palace introduced by David Coleman.
11.45 News: headlines and weather.

Regions

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